No 61.769

THE TIMES

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28 1984

20p



Tomorrow

Benn triumphant
Peter Kellner explains how Tony Benn took on the media and won

Action men
GCHQ protest: full report on the TUC day of action

Drug-runners
David Miller on the Olympics. Part 3: the drug factor



Paris match
Stuart Jones previews England's soccer match against France in Paris

The woman most likely
Wednesday Page on the chances of a woman running for the US vice-presidency

BA faces more strike action

British Airways faces the prospect of increased disruption as 7,000 maintenance workers at Heathrow airport vote on Thursday whether to join cabin staff in strike action. Last Friday cabin staff struck for 24 hours, and union leaders said the strike would be repeated this week unless management agreed to restart pay talks.

Jackson jibe



The Rev Jesse Jackson (above) admitted to a mainly Jewish audience that he referred to Jews as "Hymies" in a private conversation, but said he meant no offence

McGovern's campaign, page 6

Aids scare

Poland has taken fright at the appearance of the disease Aids in the Eastern block and is circulating a warning leaflet describing the symptoms Page 8

Fuel dispute

The Treasury has no intention of abandoning its campaign to raise fuel prices, despite being criticized for the recent increases in gas and electricity tariffs Page 2

On probation

New head teachers should be on probation for up to two years and found a post elsewhere if they could not do the job, Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, said Page 5

Pill for men

Tests using an anabolic steroid may help to produce a male contraceptive pill, the effects of which are reversible and the side effects apparently harmless Page 16

Paris preview

David Miller talks to Michel Hidalgo, the inspirational manager of the French football team who play England in Paris tomorrow Page 26

GCHQ fighting fund launched

Unions poised to sever links with Government

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The new mood of cooperation between the Government and TUC was put in serious jeopardy last night by union leaders whose anger at ministers; refusal to lift the proposed union ban at the Government Communications Headquarters could spill over into dislocating public transport today.

On the eve of the day of protest called to offer support for trade unionists at GCHQ, TUC leaders called last night for an urgent review of the movement's relationship with the Government. They also sanctioned a call for a £500,000 fighting fund to support GCHQ employees dismissed for refusing to renounce union membership by Thursday's deadline.

As a first step toward breaking off links with the Government, TUC representatives will not attend next week's meeting of the tri-partite National Economic Development Council.

The Civil Service unions last night started High Court proceedings against the Government, where they will call for an urgent judicial review of the Government's handling of the issue, to establish whether the Prime Minister and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, have acted in an "unreasonable" manner.

An emergency meeting of the TUC general council is to be held tomorrow afternoon to decide whether to break off relations with the Government, which could threaten participation in the Manpower Services Commission; Health and Safety Commission; Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service and Equal Opportunities Commission.

A special meeting yesterday of the TUC's "inner cabinet",

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the finance and general purposes committee, drew up the options for the unions at the start of a week which could prove crucial to whether the movement is prepared to countenance a head-on confrontation with the Government.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said afterwards that the Prime Minister's "intransigence and autocracy was bound to call into question the nature of our dealing with the Government." He said the arguments at tomorrow's general council would revolve around whether it was in the best interests of union members to have a dialogue with the Government.

The fighting fund to be established by the TUC will come from a 5p levy of all 10 million members of affiliated unions. It will be used to help fulfil Civil Service unions' promises to make up the normal net pay of GCHQ employees dismissed for refusing to disown union membership.

In addition to the complaint made by the union movement against the Government's actions to the International Labour Organization, the "word labour court", the general council will also be recommended to pursue complaints against Mrs Thatcher and ministers with the European Commission on Human Rights.

The finance and general purposes committee called on trade unionists to back the Civil Service unions' protest meetings and their urgings not to return to work afterwards. That, said the committee, would "demonstrate maximum solidarity with fellow trade unionists whose human rights are under threat in GCHQ".

Questioned afterwards on a comparison between his stance over backing for the National Graphical Association's defiance of the law and today's unlawful supportive action for civil servants, Mr Murray said that each issue had to be decided on its merits and "the merits of this situation are obvious".

There will be strong pressure at tomorrow's general council for the TUC to press ahead with a boycott of relations with the Government, the policy long adopted by left-wingers. However, this time they will have the support of influential moderate figures, including Mr David Basnett, general secretary of the General Municipal Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union.

Meanwhile with the Government's deadline for renouncing union membership two days away, the unions are stepping up their propaganda campaign to persuade members to sign their third option, which informs management that employees wish to remain GCHQ employees, but retain union membership.

Howe cites demonstrations as vindicating decision

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The planned demonstration today by the trade union movement against the Government's decision to exclude unions from the communications headquarters at Cheltenham was cited by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday as proof that the decision was correct.

Defending the Government's position in the Commons, Sir Geoffrey said that the unions' attempt to fight their case by provoking disruption elsewhere in the public service showed more clearly than anything he might say that the unions' presence at Cheltenham carried the risk of future conflict.

He said: "There is no doubt that the unions have made very real attempt to meet our points. But we have reached the conclusion at the end of the day that the unions' proposals unfortunately do not remove the risk of conflicting pressure from outside GCHQ on the undoubted loyalty of those who work there."

But he told the Commons, in precisely the words used by the Prime Minister to union leaders in private last week, that there remained a gap which could not be bridged.

Sir Geoffrey said that the Government's vital objectives was to prevent a recurrence of the disruption at GCHQ between 1979 and 1981, which he recapitulated, and to do so not only today but in the future when union leaders might be less disposed than now to concentrate on good order there.

The unions still wished to maintain a monopoly position for their representatives at GCHQ, Sir Geoffrey said, and the same degree of involvement by GCHQ members in national union affairs, and *vice versa*.

These were the very elements which had led to conflict in the past and there could be no guarantee that they would not do so again. The Government had to be sure that measures taken now would be watertight in rough weather as well as in calm.

He said that in the last period of rough weather, staff at Cheltenham had been severely pressed by unions to put their union loyalty above their loyalty to the service. It was only because most of them disregarded union calls for industrial action that worse disruption did not occur.

Ministers knew that many of the staff had been deeply dismayed at the extent of the

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Transport likely to be worst affected

By Our Labour Correspondent

The day of protest, originally planned to affect only government departments but which now has TUC backing, is likely to cause disruption in many areas of the country. It is expected that the worst effects of the protest would be felt at lunchtime.

Rail services look certain to be interrupted since the protest has been given full support by the National Union of Railwaymen and train drivers' union Aslef.

Ferry services could also be hit after a call from the National Union of Seamen for its members to support the civil servants.

The nine Civil Service unions are expecting a big response from their members and that could lead to some government offices being closed. The unions have called for lunchtime meetings and rallies and a recommendation that their members should not return to work in the afternoon. All the main unions in the TUC have given the protest support.

Other unions supporting the protest include television technicians, printing workers and teachers.



Burning issue: Sikhs burning the Indian constitution outside India House in London yesterday in protest against Sikhs being described as part of Hinduism. Report page 7.

Second rig blow to Scott Lithgow

By Edward Townsend and Ronald Faux

The fate of the troubled Scott Lithgow shipyard on the Lower Clyde hung in the balance once again last night after British Petroleum's decision to cancel a £60m oil rig order.

The decision, contained in a letter delivered by hand to the British Shipbuilders' subsidiary yesterday, comes after Britoil's decision before Christmas to cancel a rig order because it was two years behind schedule.

Scott Lithgow's plight, and the way negotiations for its possible sale to the Trafalgar House shipping and property group, have been handled have caused a political storm. Yesterday, Dr Norman Godman, Labour MP for Greenock and Port Glasgow, said in the Commons that the situation was "scandalous" but he failed in a bid for an emergency debate.

BP Petroleum Development said its rig, Sea Explorer, was one year late and British Shipbuilders had refused to renegotiate the contract.

A spokesman for Trafalgar House described the cancellation of the BP contract as "extremely serious. He added: "It makes the prospects for saving Scott Lithgow more difficult."

Asked if it meant Trafalgar House would now end its attempt to take over the yard, he replied: "It could do, but we don't necessarily think it will.

"We want to keep Scott Lithgow as a going concern and that means that we want to have employment for the workforce. The two contracts which were providing that work were the BP contract and the Britoil contract.

"We are in the middle of very complex negotiations with a number of parties already, and the situation is now very fluid."

BP estimated that the cost of Sea Explorer had risen from £60m to £80m since the order was placed late in 1980, originaly for completion in 18 months. The oil company will be seeking the return of £80m plus £5.8m damages. The statement added that BP was still willing to renegoitate.

British Shipbuilders, which has 14 days to respond, had no statement yesterday to this latest move to force a renegotiation.

Sea Explorer is afloat on the Clyde and about 95 per cent completed. British Shipuilders has given a delivery date of April 18 but BP, which has 30 staff working on the rig, estimates that delivery is not feasible before the middle of the summer. Trials would then have to follow and the rig would miss the North Sea drilling season.

BP points out that an identical rig ordered from South Korea at the same time as Sea Explorer was completed to cost in 18 months

Four Britons escape capture in Angola

By Richard Dowden

Four Brittons working in the diamond mines of northern Angola escaped being captured by the Unita guerrilla band which abducted 75 of their colleagues including 17 other Britons last Thursday.

Apparently they were driving from an outlying station towards the mining headquarters and, seeing smoke rising from it, guessed what had happened and drove west towards Malange.

A spokesman for Mining and Technmical Services which provides skilled mineworkers for the Angolan diamond mining company Diamang, said yesterday that two Filopinos died in the attack and a Portuguese suffered a broken arm.

He said that the names of those who had escaped capture as well as those who had been kidnapped were not being released until next of kin had been informed. The 77 included 41 Portuguese and 17 Filipinos including some women.

He confirmed that the four mentioned in the Unita communique Mr Neil Ayres, Mr Thomas Murphy, Mr Dennis Clauson and Mr Robin Kennedy had been abducted.

It is understood that in exchange for the release of the hostages, Unita is demanding an end to foreign geologists and engineers working for Angola.

In Luanda the British Embassy said they were still trying to piece together what had happened. They were keeping in close touch with the Angolan authorities who had assured them nothing would be done which might jeopardise the lives of the hostages.

Unita, which is backed by the South Africans, has been fighting the MPLA Government of Angola since 1975 and claims to have 15,000 guerillas at its command.

For Unita the hostages provide publicity at a crucial moment, but whether the rebel movement will be able to make political advantage out of that publicity remains to be seen

Banks told to collect tax on savings

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

The Government has decided to make banks deduct tax from the interest they pay to personal customers for deposit and other savings accounts. The decision is certain to provoke an outcry because it penalizes those on lower incomes.

The Committee of London Clearing Bankers confirmed yesterday that a letter had been sent to the British Bankers' Association outlining the Government's decision. Legislation will be introduced after the Budget and the system should start next year.

Banks now pay interest before deducting tax, but the Government's decision will bring them into line with the building societies, which can pay interest only after deducting tax. The societies deduct a special composite tax rate of 25 per cent, which is lower than the basic rate of tax because some of their customers are not taxpayers.

A similar composite rate system is planned for the banks.

Bankers are dismayed by the decision and the clearing banks committee said yesterday that they would much rather the system was abolished. It will involve an extra workload for the banks because they will have to collect the tax for the Inland Revenue.

The Treasury refused to comment yesterday.

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Iraq claims air raid on Iranian oil port

Bahrain (Reuter) – Iraq, in a move that could escalate and widen the Gulf war, said yesterday that its aircraft had bombed oil tankers berthed at Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

An Iraqi military spokesman in Baghdad, announcing the attack, said: "From today the first day of besieging the Kharg region will begin". He gave no details of the attack, which he called "destructive".

Iran, which made no immediate comment, has threatened repeatedly to close the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf if Iraq disrupts Iranian oil shipments.

The United States, which has warships on either side of the 24-mile-wide Strait, has pledged to maintain free passage in the waterway through which about one-sixth of the non-communist world's oil imports pass.

The latest Iranian threat to close the Strait was made at the weekend, while forces of both sides in the 41-month-old Gulf war were locked in fierce fighting on the southern battle front after an Iranian offensive launched last Wednesday.

The Iraqi spokesman said: "We warn once again all oil tankers and ships not to approach Kharg Island and other Iranian ports". Kharg Island, about 140 miles south-east of Abadan, is in an Iraqi-imposed war zone.

Kharg Island handles about 90 per cent of Iran's oil exports of about 1.7 million barrels per day, which have been providing the funds for Tehran's war effort.

Iraqi oil exports, on the othert hand, have fallen sharply to below one million barrels per day since the war started.

The Iraqi spokesman said that Baghdad's aim was to drive Iran to the negotiating table.

"We will continue dealing our blows on the Kharg region, which has been declared a war operation zone, until the Iranian regime ends its aggression . . . and accepts the UN Security Council's resolution calling for an end to the war and a solution to the problems by peaceful means . . . ."

The spokesman said that Baghdad could not tolerate a situation in which Iran was able to use its Gulf ports while Iraq was prevented from using its own ports and installations. Iraq's ports and oil outlets at the head of the Gulf have been closed by the war.

Iraqi aircraft last raided Kharg Island two years ago. Diplomatic sources in the Gulf said the island terminal was believed to be heavily defended, with many of the installations underground.

Bonn imposes news blackout on niece

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The Bonn Government imposed a news blackout on the delicate negotiations to allow the niece of Herr Willi Stoph, the East German Prime Minister, to leave the West German embassy in Prague to go to the West.

A Government spokesman yesterday refused to make any comment saying results were more important than publicity. Bonn is clearly annoyed that details of the case were released over the weekend, and has made it clear that this would only make a solution more difficult.

However, the mass circulation newspaper *Bild* said yesterday that East Germany was ready to allow Frau Ingrid Berg, her husband, her mother-in-law and two young children to emigrate to West Germany, but only if they first left the embassy voluntarily and returned to East Germany. If they did not, East Berlin was said to be threatening to stop all further emigration.

The West German Embassy was reported to be working normally, though an unknown number of East Germans who have sought asylum are still inside. On Sunday West German television showed a film of some of them walking in the garden at the back of the building.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Bavarian Prime Minister, has appealed to Herr Erich Honecker, the East German party leader, to allow Herr Stoph's relatives out. But yesterday Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic parliamentary leader, echoed government warnings that East Germans should not attempt a retetition of such spectacular actions as this ruined the prospects of others hoping to emigrate.

Czechoslovakia is the only country which East Germans are able to visit freely, showing only their identity cards at the border.

Ruth, 12, speaks up for the Oxford Right

By John Witherow

Ruth Lawrence, the mathematics prodigy who at 12 is Britain's youngest undergraduate, has become embroiled in politics at St Hugh's College, Oxford, where she has been espousing views definitely to the right of centre.

Known for her forthright approach, she recently drove a number of fellow students from a college meeting when she labelled the former Soviet leader, Yuri Andropov, a "cruel torturer" and opposed giving money to a women's peace group.

Ruth, who beat 529 other

Ruth Lawrence: embroiled in politics

age of 10, opposed a motion which noted "with sadness" the death of Andropov and pro-

"blatant insulting effrontery" at not attending the funeral.

Instead Ruth, who was accompanied to the Junior Common Room meeting by her father, proposed an amendment which "applauded the passing away of one more cruel torture from the face of the Earth, and looks forward to the day when his kind of criminal shall be no more tolerated by civilization."

According to the JCR president, Miss Catherine Hinton, "the meeting then got very vociferous and bogged down in things like "what is civilization?". A lot of people got bored and left so we became

She opposed a motion which wanted to donate £15 to an Oxford women's peace group because she claimed it was linked to the Labour Party.

Mr Harry Lawrence, a computer consultant who gave up his job seven years ago to educate his daughter and now shares college rooms with her

"We made a special case to allow him to come to meetings with his daughter, but he is not allowed to speak", Miss Hinton said.

"We have very strong right-wing and left-wing elements in the college and the meeting got quite vociferous when left-wing-

North Sea oil income now £630 a second

Britain now extracts oil worth £630 every second – bringing in £900m in taxation – a month from its North Sea reserves. Only the United States, the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia produce more oil each day.

The Royal Bank of Scotland's index of North Sea oil production has reached a high of 159 – compared with 100 in 1980 – and has continued to rise despite bad weather in January slowing down oil shipments from the smaller North Sea fields which depend on tankers

Democracy threatened after Cheltenham union ban, Benn claims

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Tony Benn took his campaign against the union ban at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) a step further yesterday when he said that the next stage would be the abolition of democracy.

The Labour candidate in the Chesterfield by-election has already said that the Government was planning to make all trade unions illegal.

But he said in the constituency yesterday: "Clearly what we now face is a major attack upon civil liberties in Britain and if the unions are destroyed, which they won't be of course, but were they to be destroyed, our freedom will not be safe."

Mr Benn, who will address a Chesterfield demonstration against the ban today, said: "I think this is a struggle for the survival of civil liberties in Britain, and if you allow the right to join a voluntary organization to be taken away by law, then the next stage is the loss of the ballot paper.

"Indeed, that is already happening in parallel because the Government has legislation to abolish democracy in London and the metropolitan counties."

Mr John Gummer, chairman of the Conservative Party, told a by-election press conference: "The problems of GCHQ are not going to be solved either by industrial action or by Mr Benn's attempts to suggest that GCHQ is anything other than a special, particular, and individual case where the demands of national security outweigh all others.

"If the security of the whole nation is in some way imperilled by the use of GCHQ as a pressure point of government, then the Government has got to make sure that the defence of the nation comes first and most people in the country believe that."

But he added: "Quite rightly, people are concerned that nobody should be put into a position in which they cannot join a trade union without a very good reason. So it is very healthy in a society when people are concerned; it is a mark of our democracy."

Mr Denis Healey said at a by-election meeting in Chesterfield last night that it was no accident that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had decided to rob the dedicated men and women of GCHQ of the right to belong to a union under the medieval concept of the royal prerogative.

He said: "She really believes that she can usurp the divine right of absolute monarchy to ride roughshod over the British people's ancient rights."

Alliance problem 'overcome'

Chesterfield liberals hit rock bottom last week when it was suddenly realized that their by-election candidate, Mr Max Payne, was showing all the signs of a Darlington-style collapse (Anthony Bevins writes).

But it was reported yesterday that the problem, one of political credibliity, of the candidate had been overcome over the weekend with a constituency-wide delivery of a detailed bulletin giving the fullest possible explanation of Liberal/Alliance policy.

Liberal sources said yesterday that that had helped further to drive down Conservative support and it was suspected that Mr Payne was now beginning to nibble away at the Labour margins.

Nevertheless, it was admitted that if another opinion poll gave Mr Tony Benn a lead of more than 20 per cent in Chesterfield today or tomorrow, then Mr Payne would be well and truly "throttled" in Thursday's by-election.

If enough voters feel that Mr Payne has a chance of winning, then there is enough antipathy towards Mr Benn to give the Liberal/Alliance a slim chance of a last-ditch surge.

That extra support could come from both Conservative and Labour camps but, perhaps more important, from the reserve bank of potential votes in the one-in-five group which has been telling opinion pollsters that they are either undecided or will not say.

Although Mr Benn has publicly eschewed any attacks on his opponents, his closest political aides have not been so scrupulous. The viciousness of their criticism of Mr Payne identifies the area of Labour concern.



Mr Payne: Nibbling at Labour margins.

Mr Benn and his advisors have had to contend with his reputation as a hardline left-winger. He has consistently refused to submit to regular press questioning and his rare press conferences have been marked by a general air of tension and embarrassment of fearful expectation that Labour divisions might be exposed.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, said that he agreed with Mr Benn on a long list of policy. It was only in this week's *Punch* that he calculated the area of disagreement amounted to about 15 per cent of Labour policy.

Mr Nick Bourne, the Conservative candidate, has fought a creditable, if uninspired campaign. No one expects him to win: if he comes second he will be a party hero.

A BBC television Newsnight survey of a panel of Chesterfield voters last night gave Mr Benn 46 per cent, compared with 32 per cent for Mr Payne, and 20 per cent for Mr Bourne, a Labour lead of 14 per cent.

Mr Gummer: "Defence comes first".

Pressure grows on police cells

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Evidence that remand prisoners are being held in police cells for up to a week or more came yesterday from lawyers in north west London, an MP and the Prison Reform Trust. At least one prisoner is said to have been detained in a police cell for up to a fortnight.

A the weekend, 203 remand prisoners were being held in police cells in the South-east because o a shortage of space in overcrowded London prisons, now under unprecedented pressure because of numbers being processed by the courts.

More than 10,000 prisoners were being held in the South-east last Friday, the most on record.

Mr Christopher Smith, Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury, said that he was in correspondence with Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, about constituent, Mr Patrick Adams, who had been held in a police cell for a fortnight or more.

Lawyers say they and families have difficulty keeping track of remand prisoners who are frequently moved at short notice. The first lawyers may know about a prisoner's move is when they turn up for abroken appointment.

Even when prisoners are not having to be held overnight in police cells they may still be under pressure. Chief Supt Kenneth Cooper, divisional commander, of Northampton Police, told *The Times* that last Wednesday 22 remand prisoners came from jail to Kettering where there are five police cells and one interview room.

In a letter to Northamptonshire's solicitors, Chief Supt Cooper says: "Suitable accommodation is simply not available and operational demands upon resources do not allow me to commit the required manpower to the task.

"Consequently I have been forced to invoke a policy that no access will be available to legal advisers to remand or productions prisoners, whilst awaiting court proceedings, unless the court directs such access will be made available, or such access is vital to the interests of the prisoner."

Mr Cooper told *The Times* he had no wish to take away from any prisoner his rights. He appreciated the need for legal advisers to be briefed, but it appeared that opportunities for interviews already existing in prisons had not been fully used.

Northamptonshire Law Society said yesterday that it was highly desirable for lawyers to be able to see clients before they went into court to take instructions and check that there has been no change in their situation. The effect of the ruling would be to interfere with the administration of the courts by cases being put back into the list or adjourned.



Thatcher recipe for female responsibility

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Many women do not make use of their opportunities or are too easily contented with their job, according to the Prime Minister.

There is nothing unfeminine about climbing the tree of responsibility, Mrs Margaret Thatcher says in BBC World Service interview to be broadcast today. Women still have less self-confidence in their ability than men, and she questions why there are no women editors of national newspapers or why there has never been a female BBC director-general.

Mrs Thatcher says the problem is not getting women to take the last step to the top; if the opportunity comes and the personality is right it will be taken. The difficulty is getting women up the responsibility tree so that there are more to choose from for the top jobs.

The Prime Minister interviewed in *Women in Power*, emphasized the "enormous" value she placed on her friendship with women. "Indeed sometimes you would not be able to carry on without them, because you sometimes must go and sit down and let down your hair with someone you can trust totally who understands similar things and who will just talk."

Mrs Thatcher says that she finds it very easy to talk to Mrs Gandhi because of what they have in common and their shared understanding of the combination of the pull of family and total dedication to politics.

Mrs Thatcher says that you can get through anything if you have family and friends; they are much more important than riches.

No woman in power will have a happy life unless she has many women friends, the Prime Minister says. She wonders why men were so astonished and so "damnably patronizing" when women did remarkable things in wartime.

And in another gentle "dig" at men, she says in passing that there is no female version of the word "puerile", adding: "That is probably because we do not need one".

Mrs Thatcher says she has always recoiled from making expedient decisions, although it was sometimes tempting.

The Prime Minister also joined the growing band of critics of parliamentary rowdiness.

Commenting on MP's disruptive behaviour, she said: "Sometimes I think their sense of humour is very elemental. I think it's a lack of maturity on their part.

On the volume of noise directed at her since she took over the Tory party leadership, Mrs Thatcher said: "It's something quite deep and psychological. They try to do it to put you off. I mean it's quite absurd. I'm astonished that after eight years they are still trying to put you off."

Mrs Thatcher explained her philosophy of leadership.

"To me the whole secret of life is to stop looking at things in terms of . . . men in power, women in power.

Speaker appeals to MPs for better behaviour

Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker of the Commons, appealed to MPs for better behaviour in the Chamber yesterday after renewed expression of concern by senior backbenchers over deteriorating standards (our Political Reporter writes).

Mr Weatherill, who was elected Speaker after the June election, said in a statement to the House that although robust debate had always been a feature of the parliamentary system, it should not be allowed to extend to disruption of the proceedings.

He said that MPs had a supreme duty to set an example

Mr Weatheill's remarks came after last Thursday's noisy disturbances after Prime Minister's question time, as Labour and Social Democrat MP's tussled for seats.

However, Conservative MPs have not been blameless. Some of them are loud in their heckling and a group recently held up scorecards, in the style of ice dancig judges, after a contribution from Neil Kinnock. That, too, was deprecated by Mr Weatherill.

Rolls of honour: The first six-door Rolls-Royce.

Rolls extends its range

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The first six door Rolls-Royce car measuring 20ft 6in long and weighing more than two and a half tons is being produced at the rate of two a month by a Weybridge, Surrey, firm of conversion specialists to orders place by Rolls-Royce.

The first two have been shipped in some secrecy to customers in the Far East and cost about £140,000 each.

But yesterday neither Rolls-Royce nor Robert Jankel Design, Weybridge, would disclose the names of the buyers or indicate which countries further orders were coming from.

From brief details available, the cars are almost certainly for use by heads of state.

Standard Silver Spur limousines are being extended by 36 inches. The front and rear compartments have independently operated air conditioning.

A walnut console in the rear compartment contains a colour television, video recorder, and the latest radio casette system complete with graphic equalizer, power amplifier, and four speakers. There is also a two-way communication system

The interior is trimmed in traditional leather and Wilton carpeting.

Smoking in Britain: 2

Politicians 'fail to use powers'

By Thomson Prentice,
Science Correspondent

In the next 10 years, about four million people will give up smoking, and smokers, now about 35 per cent of the adult population, will be outnumbered three to one by non-smokers.

Death and illness caused by smoking will still be seen as shockingly high, but there will be fewer victims of lung cancer, bronchitis, and heart disease. Many casualties of the 1990s will be today's smokers.

Sponsorship of sport and arts by tobacco companies will have declined. Cigarette advertising will be less common on the streets.

Cigarette sales will have fallen from the present 102,000 million a year to about 66,000 million, less than half the figure of 10 years ago.

Those are predictions from the Health Education Council, Action on Smoking and Health, the General Household Survey, the Department of Health and Social Security, and independent experts.

But just how realistic they prove to be will depend largely on politicians.

However, they are consistently accused of failing to use that power

In 1981, Sir George Young, then Minister for Health, favoured a complete ban on tobacco advertising, and was energetically pursuing tough anti-smoking policies. He was then moved to the Department of Environment.

The Royal College of Physicians, most health organizations, and experienced political observers believe that he lost his job because the tobacco industry brought sufficient influence to bear to remove him.

A Harris Research Centre opinion poll, commissioned by the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco (Forest), indicates that 54 per cent of 1,336 British Rail passengers questioned were in favour of dividing buffet cars into smoking and no-smoking areas. Forty-two per cent favoured a total ban on smoking in refreshment carriages.

Last year, the Minister for Health, Mr Kenneth Clarke, sanctioned a health-promotion research trust, financed with £11m from the industry. A condition of the funding, though, was that the use and effects of tobacco products would be excluded from research.

That conditional acceptance was described by the British Medical Association as disgraceful.

Dr Charles Fletcher, emeritus professor of clinical epidemiology at London University, said: "Politicians are not in the least interested in health, except their own health.

A vehement critic of the industry and the Government is Mr Mike Daube, senior lecturer in health education at Edinburgh University

Last year, at the world conference on smoking and health in Winnipeg, he launched a fierce attack on the attitudes of ministers and civil servants

At about the same time he applied to be head of public affairs of the Health Education Council, which is funded by the Government

Informed sources say he emerged as the best qualified of more than 200 candidates. But he did not get the job.

The reason, it was said later, was that he was unacceptable to ministers.

Tomorrow: Inside the industry.

Unionists urge Prior not to reduce role of UDR

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Unionist leaders are to urge Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, to resist any attempts to scale down the role of the Ulster Defence Regiment in security operations across the province.

The leaders of the Official Unionist, and Democratic Unionist parties, will meet Mr Prior later this week for talks particularly on border security and they will question him about future plans for the locally recruited regiment.

The regiment itself had no comment to make on discussions concerning long-term security policies in the province or the unhappiness of some senior security forces at the UDR's role which is seen by some to be counter productive.

However, Mr James Molyneaux, leader of the Official Unionist Party, and Mr Kenneth Maginnis, the party's security spokesman and a former major in the regiment, both defended the UDR. They said that criticisms of it were part of a long running campaign to besmirch its reputation.

However, some members of the Official-Unionists would not be opposed to any long term increase in the size of the full-time Royal Ulster Constabulary, but do not believe this should be accompanied by a parallel decline in the size or role of the UDR.

Mr Molyneaux said any suggestion of a rduction in the role of the UDR had to be discounted as a practical possibility. He said: "Nothing could bring greater joy to terrorism than to see another element in the battle against it, taken out."

Mr Maginnis said the party would urge the Government to retain the UDR at its present strength of 7,111 full, and part-time members. Meanwhile, the Northern Ireland Police Authority confirmed that Sir John Hermon, the chief constable of the RUC, has requested an increase of between 250 and 500 in its 7,997 full time strength.

● Colin Nesbitt, aged 23, from north Belfast, whose skull was smashed by "loyalist" paramilitaries in a punishment attack on Sunday was very seriously ill in hospital last night.

Missiles bring Synod protests

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

There were protests at the opening of the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday at the way the issue of cruise missiles had been bought forward for debate, the Synod having twice previously declined to consider it. It is due for debate on Thursday.

Canon George Austin, of St Alban's diocese, told the Synod: "Only 12 months ago we said it was not our business to do this sort of thing". There was considerable applause for his remarks.

Later, Mr Paul Rippon, of Norwich diocese, said: "I want to express my anger on hearing that we are having foisted on us yet again a debate on cruise missiles. Who are these trendy people who want to foist upon us a debate on this?"

The issue of cruise missiles is due to be debated on a motion from the chairman of the Board for Social Responsibility, the Bishop of Birmingham, Dr Hugh Montefiore.

Man cleared of murder offered interim £15,000

Mervyn John Russell, who was cleared last December of murdering an art student in 1977, has been offered £15,000 as an interim payment by the Government for wrongful imprisonment (our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

He was jailed for life by the Central Criminal Court for stabbing Miss Alison Bigwood, aged 20. However, he walked free from the Court of Appeal on December 6 after Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that new evidence pointed inescapably to the fact that Mr Russell could not have been the killer.

Lord Whitelaw of Penrith, the Home Secretary referred the case to the Court of Appeal a year ago after new evidence was uncovered by Justice, the British section of the International Commission of Jurists, in conjunction with the help of the BBC programme *Rough Justice*.

Lord Lane said the evidence from a pathologist had caused the court great anxiety. It pointed inescapably to the fact that Miss Bigwood had clutched the head of her killer

Printing unions agree new technology deal

Leaders of 160,000 industrial printing workers have agreed to speed the process whereby new technology is introduced

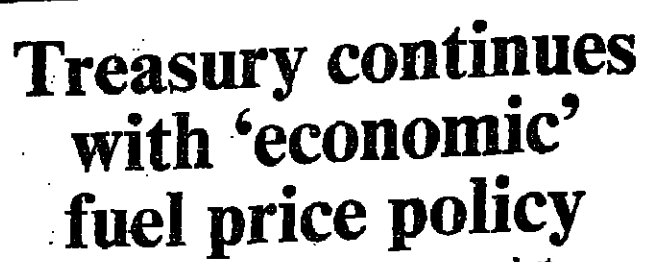
As part of a wage deal worth about 5.1 per cent, the National Graphical Association and Sogat '82 have agreed to set up a jint group to advise and encourage companies to introduce new processes.

The unions and members of the 2,500 strong British Printing Industries Federation will be represented on the National Joint Efficiency and Productivity Committee.

The pay offer and monitoring committee are conditional on the approval of union members, but the deal has been approved by negotiators for both sections

The most sensitive area under consideration is the material produced by word processers.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 680 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100



Treasury continues with 'economic' fuel price policy

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Treasury has no intention of abandoning its campaign to force up fuel prices to "economic" levels, despite the political dispute that continues to revolve around the recent increase in gas and electricity tariffs.

It believes, for example, that domestic gas prices are still between 15 and 20 per cent too low, despite the 4 per cent increase introduced in January. British Gas is not charging enough to cover the long-term cost of its supplies, the Treasury says.

It is also concerned that the electricity industry is not making enough profit for an industry of its size, although it accepts that electricity prices now appear to be roughly in line with the industry's long-term costs.

Despite the 2 per cent increase in prices imposed this year, the electricity supply industry is still expected to make a real return on its £30,000m of assets of less than 2 per cent, which the Treasury regards as inadequate.

It has launched a joint investigation with the Department of Energy into why the return should be so low, especially after the huge publicly funded investment in new power stations over the past 20 years.

If the electricity industry was to meet the standard 5 per cent real rate of return target applied to public sector investment projects, it should be making £1,500m a year before interest payments, not the £850m a year it reported last year, Treasury officials say.

It is clear that the Treasury expects to be given a critical drubbing from the Select Committee on Energy's report on the gas and electricity price rises this year. The report is due to be published on Wednesday and is expected to accuse the Treasury of using fuel price increases as a form of "back-door taxation".

The department has been at pains to make clear that it is sticking to its energy pricing policy, despite the criticisms. The dispute inside Cabinet about the rises has obscured what should be an important long-term policy issue, the Treasury argues.

Greenham evictions 'this week'

By Colin Hughes

Newbury District Council's five-member Greenham Common committee meets tonight to decide to evict women protesters outside the nuclear weapons airbase from one of their few remaining patches of land.

Mr Brian Thetford, Newbury's chief executive, said that the expected bailiffs would move in to evict women from three camps along Buryes Bank Road, on the north perimeter, by the end of the week.

That will leave three other camps: one at the main gate on Ministry of Transport land, one on Ministry of Defence land, and another on partially common land in a copse on the east side of the base.

The 100 women remaining regularly in the camps are adament that they will stay

Another 22 women appeared before Newbury magistrates yesterday on charges including criminal damage, intent to damage the perimeter fence, obstructing a police officer, and obstructing the highway.

Cartland's old style virtues

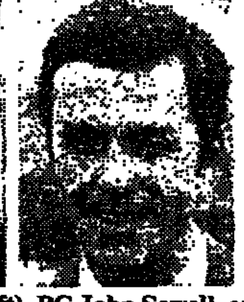
The idea of a woman saving herself for the right man is very appealing these days, according to Barbara Cartland, novelist, who has sold 370 million of her books across the world.

All her handsome heroes never make love to the beautiful virgins until after the ringing of wedding bells. Pre-marital sex is taboo in every one of her novels, and that she says, is what modern women like to read.

From my mail, I find more and more women turning back to the traditional woman's role said Miss Cartland aged 82, who is the step-grandmother of the Princess of Wales. She is attending a celebration lunch at the Dorchester this week, as the guest of the bookshop Foyles to mark her latest literary success.

It's, a cook book for lovers called *The Romance of Food*. "People everywhere are sick of the latest batch of pornographic novels," she said. "I'm quite convinced that most men could not achieve some of the tricks performed in the sexual acts described in such books.







Monty Cohen (left), PC John Sewell, and his wife, Anna.

Marmaduke, a ginger tom cat, appeared at Snaresbrook Crown Court In north-east London yesterday

Police Constable John Sewell said he was kicked and punched when he called at Mr Monty Cohen's home to ask for the cat which, he said, had disappeared while he was on holiday.

Mr Cohen, aged 57, of Thurlby Close, Woodford Bridge, Essex, denies stealing the cat, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, and common assault. The case continues

Law Society to overhaul complaints procedure after 'disgraceful conduct'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Radical reforms in the way the Law Society handles complaints will be made as a result of a report published yesterday that describes as a disgrace the way it dealt with the case of a solicitor who overcharged a client by £131,000.

The report, the result of the society's internal inquiry into the affair, rejects allegations of a "whitewash" or "cover up".

However, it says that the society's handling of complaints by Mr Leslie Parsons, a south Wales business man, against his solicitor, Mr Glanville Davies, "fell far short of that which he was entitled to expect and he has been seriously wronged".

In a severe castigation of the society for its conduct, the report says the failures were "many and recurring" and that the whole episode was a disgrace to the Law Society.

The report found "administrative failures, mistakes, wrong decisions, errors of judgment, failures in communication, high-handedness, and insentivity on a scale that must have done great harm to the Law Society".

Steps must now be taken, it says, to learn from the inquiry's findings and relate them to complaints procedures so that "criticism of this magnitude can never again be levelled at the society".

Mr Davies, of Llanelli, a solicitor since 1945 and a council member of the Law Society from 1967 until he resigned because of ill health in 1982, was ordered by a High Court judge to be struck off the roll of solicitors last October.

The proceedings were brought by Mr Parsons after the Law Society had failed to act over his complaints, first made in 1978 and then repeated on several occasions during a period of five years.

Mr Davies admitted "gross and persistent professional misconduct" in submitting and seeking to defend a bill for £198,000 which was eventually reduced to £67,000.

The society's inquiry, conducted by three council members under Mr Philip Ely, a Southampton solicitor, has been accepted by the society's governing council and its report sent to all 44,000 solicitors in England and Wales.

Mr Graham Lee, secretary of professional and public relations at the society, said yesterday that measures to be taken to prevent anything similar happening again included increasing the number of staff who deal with about 8,000 complaints a year from the public.

Another change is that in future complaints against council members would be referred for advice to an outside firm of solicitors to avoid allegations of bias.

The society is also seeking increased powers from the Government to deal with cases of "bad professional work" from solicitors. It wants powers to order solicitors to forfeit all or part of their fees in cases where they have been shown to be incompetent or inefficient.

Mr Chrispher Hewetson, the society's president, has written an apology to Mr Parsons, saying that the society will not seek to enforce the order for costs made against him in the High Court.

It was estimated that Mr Parsons faced a bill between £5,000 and £9,000 after the judge rejected his argument that the society should pay its own costs for not bringing disciplinary proceedings against Mr Davies.

Out-of-court divorce conciliation reviewed

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government has ordered a review of conciliation as a means of settling disputes between divorcing couples over finance and children, and avoiding bitter courtroom hearings.

The review, announced by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone yesterday, means that the Government is reserving a final decision on whether to fund a nationwide conciliation service.

An interdepartmental inquiry by civil servants last July rejected pleas that the Government should support a national, out-of-court conciliation service similar to the pioneer scheme run on a voluntary basis in Bristol.

Instead, it concluded that conciliation – by which couples are helped to settle disputes amicably and avoid court hearings – should be an integral part of divorce court procedure.

However, Lord Hailsham says that while the Government "will have regard" to the recommendation of the civil servants' inquiry that no grounds have been made for central funding for out-of-court schemes, there was insufficient information about such schemes on which to make a decision.

It is therefore setting up a project unit, as recommended by the interdepartmental inquiry, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Research Council. The unit has a £200,000 budget to study conciliation schemes over three years.

Lord Hailsham also said that changes in court procedure that might be necessary to make provision for conciliation were being considered by the Matrimonial Causes Procedure Committee under Mrs Justice Booth.

The Lord Chancellor's Department was also reviewing lawyers' pay in matrimonial cases.

Couple sue surgeon for negligence over vasectomy failure

By Colin Hughes

A couple who felt angry, upset, and let down when they conceived their sixth child three years after the husband's vasectomy sued the surgeon in the High Court yesterday for medical negligence and damages.

Mr and Mrs Donald and Patricia Thake, of Spring Road, Bidborough, Kent, said that the surgeon did not warn them of a slight risk of "God working the mystery" and rejoining the severed tube, their counsel, Mr Roger Henderson, QC, said.

They agreed that Mr Brian Maurice, general surgeon at Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, should perform the £20 operation when Mrs Thake, aged 44, became pregnant with her fifth child of the marriage in 1975. Two sperm tests on Mr Thake, aged 45, afterwards proved negative and the surgeon wrote to them: "Youmay reasonably take no further contraceptive precautions from now on".

Mr Maurice said he also warned them that the cut tube occasionally rejoined, adding: I am no plumber. One is dealing with healing tissue".

Mr and Mrs Thake said they were never warned. In September 1978, while fruit-picking in the Kent orchards, she complained of bachache and putting on weight. Her friends "ribbed her" that she must be pregnant, knowing that her husband had had a vasectomy, but she laughed it off "knowing in her mind that she could not be pregnant".

A pregnancy test in November 1978 proved positive and the couple's family doctor wryly added an exclamation mark on their notes where the vasectomy was recorded. Tests showed that Mr Thake's sperm tubes had rejoined.

Mrs Thake had conceived four months previously, making it too late to abort the child which they could ill afford on Mr Thake's £98-a-week wage as a British Rail guard. Samantha Jane was born the next April, "an unwanted addition to the family, though she was happily received", Mr Henderson said. They regarded her as "a blessing", he told Mr Justice Peter Pain.

He cited articles in medical journals which showed that it was known that the chance of the tubes relinking three to four months after a vasectomy were fewer than one in a hundred. Only a handful of cases of later relinking had been recorded.

The case was adjourned until today.

BL praised by car fleet survey

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

BL's Mini, Metro, Maestro and yet-to-be-launched Montego cars have won accolades in a new survey of the British fleet market which shows them to be among the most efficient and cheap for a company to own.

The survey, conducted by the Birmingham-based Interleasing company, shows that the Montego 1.6 litre model should cost a fleet owner who leases the car 19.6p a mile to run. This is cheaper than the competition, including the Vauxhall Cavalier and Ford Sierra and only 0.4p more expensive than the Ford Orion.

The results of the survey, which covered 120 cars divided into 12 sections, should prove heartening to BL at a time when its market share has been stagnating.

This month, Vauxhall's share is expected to be over 20 per cent, compared with BL's 17 per cent, thanks to the continuing success of the Cavalier, Astra and Spanish-built Nova models. General Motors, Vauxhall's parent, is expected to be confirmed as this year's leading importer so far, beating Ford for the first time.

Interleasing's figures, which BL stressd yesterday were unofficial, put the Montego two-litre Vanden Plas automatic model, the top of the range, in the lead at the expensive end of the fleet market with a milage cost of 25.9p against the Ford Granada 2.0 LX at 26.3p and Rover 2000 at 27.6p.

BL, which is launching the Montego publicly on April 25, declined to comment yesterday on its specific performance figures and it appears that Interleasing has made assumptions based on the Maestro. However, the new car, officially called the LM11, is BL's answer to the fleet sector dominance won by cars such as the Sierra and Cavalier.

Austin Rover said: "We think the fleet market has great potential growth in 1984

Interleasing, which claims to operate the UK's largest contract hire fleet, based its figures on a mileage of 18,000 a year and took into account leasing and all motoring costs.

£5,800-£6,300 cars	Price £	Monthly lease £	Annual petrol cost £	Ins. £	Annual running costs £	Cost per mile p.
Ford Orion GL 1.6 4 Dr	6200	181	1030	248	3450	19.2
*Austin Montego 1.6 L 4Dr	5890	180	1140	236	3538	19.6
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6 L 4Dr	5881	186	1163	235	3630	20.2
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6 L 5Dr	6013	189	1163	241	3672	20.4
Ford Sierra 1.6 L 5Dr	5984	191	1221	239	3752	20.8
Renault 18 GTL 5 Speed	5950	209	1052	238	3798	21.1
Talbot Solara 1 6 GL 4Dr	6144	200	1188	246	3834	21.3
Volkswagen Passat L	5833	201	1271	233	3916	21.8
Talbot Alpine 1 6 GL 5Dr	6295	207	1188	252	3924	21.8
£13-17,000						
Ford Granada 2.8i Ghia X	13099	428	1921	524	7581	42.1
Volvo 760 GLE Turbo	13249	466	1710	530	7832	43.5
Opel Senator 3.0 E CD	13994	460	1839	560	7919	44.0
Rover 3500 Vanden Plas Auto	14178	514	1849	610	8627	47.9
Rover 3500 Vitesse	15249	514	1849	610	8627	47.9
Mercedes 280 SE	16989	555	1727	680	9067	50.4
Jaguar XJ 4.2 Auto	16494	530	2085	660	9105	50.5

*Estimated retail price. Model to be launched on April 25

Life for insurance plot killer

Valerie Mason, aged 22, collapsed in the dock at Manchester Crown Court yesterday and had to be helped to the cells after being sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering an insurance salesman.

Mason, the mother of two children, of Bolton Road, Ashton-in-Makersfield, Greater Manchester, had denied killing Mr David Moore.

Mason's husband, James, aged 31, had earlier admitted murder and also received a life sentence.

The court was told that the couple's plan was to fake the husband's death by killing Mr Moore, who bore a slight resemblance to Mr Mason, and collect £76,000 insurance money.

Roland Rat's creator sued

The creator of Roland Rat, the puppet shown on TV-am, the breakfast television station, is being sued by a former colleague for about £100,000.

Mr Martin Dean, a floor manager with Yorkshire Television, is understood to be claiming breach of contract by Mr David Claridge, the puppeteer.

Arm case delay

Summonses alleging negligence by Mr Richard Markham, a farmer, after Mr Roy Tapping, lost an arm in agricultural machinery, were adjourned until April 16 by Wallington magistrates, Oxfordshire, yesterday. After the accident Mr Tapping carried his arm for a quarter of a mile; it was later sewn back on.



Top award for actor's daughter



Sarah Woodward (above), the daughter of the actor Edward Woodward (right), has won the top award given by the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (Rada) to its graduates (Mark Roselli writes).

A secret vote by staff and directors selected Sarah, aged 20, for the Bancroft Gold Medal. Sarah also gets £200 from the Honourable Society of the Knights of the Round Table. (photograph above: John Voos).

Airlines install video

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Airline passengers of the future will be able to tune into their favourite television or radio programme or watch their choice of film on video projected on to high definition screens. Businessmen will be able to receive telex messages direct from their offices while in flight and communicate with them by satelite telephone. These ideas are now being developed by the world's leading airlines.

British Caledonian will take a modest step along that road next week. On receipt of its European Airbus, it will become the latest among the world airlines to select video instead of film for entertainment during flights. Qantas, the Australian airline, Air Canada, and Cathay Pacific are all in various stages of installing video s.

The British Caledonian project, if successful, will be extended to the rest of the fleet. If Air Canada's experience is typical, millions of pounds can be saved in operating costs.

Runaway Volvos' fault 'found'

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Volvo Concessionaires, the British company handling Volvo car imports, rejected yesterday the latest "solution" to the two-year-old mystery of why some Volvo 300 series automatics are reported to have run away uncontrollably.

Mr James Poolman, a motor engineer from Eversley, Hampshire, has told the Department of Transport that a kinked accelerator cable which causes the throttle to jam is to blame. He says the problem is exacerbated by a loose fitting at the end of the cable and claims to reproduced the fault in bench tests.

However, Volvo Concessionaires said: "We knew about the kinked cable suggestion more than six months ago and had it investigated by the independent Motor Industry Research Association. They discounted it, just like all the other so-called defects which have been mentioned over the years".

Mr Poolman replied: "The cable layout is atrocious and varies from one car to another.

Volvo Owners' Action Group, formed seven months ago, says it has reports of 120 incidents involving Volvo 300 series automatics and earlier 66GL automatics.

Cycle with pedal-power launched

By Craig Seton

An electrically power-assisted bicycle with a top speed of 15 mph which can be ridden by anyone aged over 14 without road tax, driving licence or a crash helmet, was launched in Birmingham yesterday.

Mrs Doreen Kennedy-Way, aged 54, of Wolverhampton, who is a member of the Institute of Inventors and Patentees, designed the bicycle, which is aimed at women riders and young people.

The motor, which can be fitted to a traditional bicycle, is mounted pannier-style above the rear wheel. A 12-volt battery, rechargable from the mains, drives a second chain and assists the rider when a handle bar grip is operated. It has a range of 25 miles before recharging is necessary.

Mrs Kennedy-Way, who has spent many years in the motor cycle industry, and her husband Arthur, who was made redundant from the motor industry, decided to market the Pandora Pow'r Pak to take advantage of a change in the transport regulation which previously prohibited anyone under the age of 16 from riding a moped-type machine. A Pandora bicycle with the power pack fitted will retail for £294.

Mr Kennedy-Way launched the machine at the International Electrotechnical Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

Mr Kennedy-Way said yesterday: "To come within the new transport regulations the bicycle has to be power assisted and cannot exceed 15 mph. We think it will have two markets: women particularly who might want a little more power when they go shopping and young people, perhaps between the ages of 14 and 16, who are looking for their first power-assisted vehicle."



A volunteer demonstrating the bicycle yesterday (photograph: Suresh Karadia).

PARLIAMENT February 27 1984

Union ban stands: GCHQ must be permanently on alert

SECURITY

The function of the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham was to be permanently on the alert: nothing less would do, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in the Commons when he conceded that the unions had made very real attempts to meet points over the dispute relating to the banning of union membership at the establishment.

However, he said, the Government had concluded that proposals from the unions did not remove the risk of conflicting pressures from outside GCHQ on the undoubted loyalty of those who worked there and did not satisfy the Government's ultimate responsibility for safeguarding national security.

It was not the Government's intention to extend these measures beyond those agencies whose primary functions were concerned with security and intelligence.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said the fact that the unions were seeking to fight their case at GCHQ by provoking disruption elsewhere in the public service made the points more clearly than anything he could say. Elements in the union proposals had led to conflict in the past and there could be no guarantee that they would not lead to conflict again in the future.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said the Government's decision on GCHQ was a kick in the teeth for all those union leaders who had been prepared to try to develop a constructive relationship with the Government. Above all, it was a kick in the teeth for Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said that, first and foremost, GCHQ was one of the security and intelligence agencies on which Britain's security and, to some degree, that of her allies, depended.

Any significant interruption in the flow of intelligence from GCHQ (he said) could, in circumstances which can never be foreseen in advance, deprive the Government of the day of information which could be vital to our national security.

It is crucially important that GCHQ's operations and activities should be maintained without any disruption or interference.

He hoped all sides would accept that the decision to ban unions at GCHQ was not part of any wider campaign. (Labour interruptions.)

There is not one word of truth (he continued) in the wild and extravagant claims which have been made on this point.

The arrangements introduced at GCHQ were those which had always existed in other agencies whose operations were mainly concerned with security and intelligence.

Successive employment protection acts had provided for the need to except certain categories of employment on ground of national security. Certificates precisely similar to those he had signed had been in force since 1971 for the other intelligence and security agencies. They had been signed by the responsible ministers of governments of both parties.

The only anomaly was that a different situation had been allowed to grow up in GCHQ. It was only once the Government had specifically and publicly acknowledged that GCHQ was also an agency dealing with security intelligence, as the Prime Minister did in the House on May 12 last year, that the way was open to correct that anomaly.

There was an absolute necessity to have arrangements which met every requirement of national security, and he doubted if this would have been so widely recognized and endorsed if the Government had not taken the decision that he announced on January 25.

But the extent of the support for our objectives (he said) is none the less welcome for that. The differences which remain can be seen as differences about means rather than ends.

But in deciding on the right means the Government had to take full account of the extent of the problem, potential as well as actual, that was revealed by the events between February 1979 and April 1981 when the continuity of GCHQ was disrupted seven times. Over 10,000 working days had been lost.

More than 25 per cent of the staff were involved in the so-called day of action on March 9, 1981 when parts of GCHQ were virtually closed down by industrial disruption. The action included many engaged in sensitive operations.

That effect and activity must be regarded as unacceptable.

We can never know what intelligence (he said) has been or might be lost. Fortunately no serious threat to the nation's security materialised during these periods of disruption. But those are not arguments for accepting the possibility of disruption as a fact of life. The function of GCHQ is to be permanently on the alert. Nothing less will do.

But the decision to proceed as the Government had was not taken lightly. Since 1978 management had been seeking ways with the unions of avoiding disruption. But union officials had been thinking along very different lines.

In February 1979 a national union officer had been quoted as saying that "the strike would completely paralyse Government communications".

In 1980 informal soundings about a no-strike or no-disruption agreement were taken locally by GCHQ management. The reaction of local union representatives was not encouraging.

During the selective action after the one day strike of March 9, 1981, GCHQ's senior management and a very senior official in the Civil Service Department appealed to officials at the CSU not to take disruptive action in some key areas. The only result had been deliberately perverse; pressure to continue strike action had been brought to bear on GCHQ staff in precisely those areas.

That same month unions announced that there would be a range of selective and disruptive action "which will affect Britain's secret communications surveillance network".

The union leaders concerned knew what they were doing. He had said in evidence to the Select Committee on Employment that they deliberately chose to direct action against what they correctly saw as a very sensitive and vital agency of the Government, with the avowed intent of causing both national and international repercussions.

To put it more bluntly (he added) they were quite prepared, in pursuance of a dispute about pay, to cause or threaten damage to national security.

The attitude of some at the time was well summarized in the Council of Civil Service Unions campaign report, 1981, where it was said "our ultimate success depends upon the extent to which ... defence readiness is hampered ... by this and further action".

The Government's four objectives (he said) were: that GCHQ staff must be deprived of right of access to industrial tribunals, for security reasons; part of the conditions of service should be no interference in GCHQ's activities by industrial disruption; that negotiations on departmental issues should be carried out by departmental staff representatives answerable to the staff and no one else; and that the maintenance of GCHQ's service must not be put at risk by any conflict of loyalty of the staff.

The Government had carefully examined the concessions offered by the unions, as recommended by the select committee.

The unions had made real attempts to meet the Governments points. But it had reached the conclusion that the unions' proposals unfortunately did not remove the risk of conflicting pressures from outside GCHQ on the undoubted loyalty of those who worked there, and they did not satisfy the Government's ultimate responsibility for safeguarding national security.

The Government recognised that the proposals put by the unions constituted a genuine and sincere attempt to work out an agreement which would meet the Government's objectives. But there remained a gap which could not be bridged.

The unions were prepared to accept a condition of service that there would be no industrial action which could interfere with the uninterrupted operation of "essential security and intelligence services".

This implied a distinction between "essential security and intelligence services" and the rest of GCHQ. That distinction (he said) is one which we cannot accept. National security required that GCHQ should be treated as a whole and industrial disruption avoided throughout.



Irving: Lowest morale possible

The crucial point was that the unions continued to insist that they should be recognised at GCHQ and that they should represent the interests of all the staff, whether members of unions or not.

The Government recognised that the unions' position in this respect was entirely consistent with the Whitley principles that generally governed relations between management and staff in the Civil Service.

But in the case of those agencies whose primary functions were concerned with security and intelligence, the requirements of national security had to take priority over the principles which applied elsewhere in the Civil Service. That is (he said) and has been, the position in other intelligence agencies. And so it has to be at GCHQ.

MPs who had experience of industrial relations would know that periods of calm had all too often been interrupted. No one could guarantee that the cycle would not be repeated at some time in future. That was why the Government had to be sure that the measures it was taking today would be watertight in rough weather as well as calm.

The union proposals, for all the effort they undoubtedly represented, sought to maintain a monopoly position for union representatives in GCHQ; and the previous degree of involvement by GCHQ members in national union affairs, and vice versa.

These were the very elements which had led to conflict in the past. There could be no guarantee that they would not lead to conflict again in the future, despite the undertakings which the unions were prepared to offer today.

Indeed (he said), the fact that the unions are at this very time seeking to fight their case at GCHQ by provoking disruption elsewhere in the public service makes my point more clearly than anything that I can say.

Indeed, one of the union leaders involved has said in a letter to his members that "to avoid giving propaganda points to the Government and in the interests of continuing to hold public support, the GCHQ members will not be asked to take strike action on that day (28 February)".

Nothing could make it clearer that in his mind at least pressure on GCHQ is being avoided on this occasion largely for tactical purposes.

The measures had nothing to do with fears about traitors, moles and the like. Their purpose was to insulate a vital part of the country's security and intelligence system from the conflicting pressures which were so apparent in the past.

Pressures (he continued) which, with all respect to Mr Murray, had nothing to do with family, religion or party; but were brought to bear by the unions on a basis similar to what they have led us to expect will happen tomorrow.

The Government had been concerned to provide a fair deal for the staff of GCHQ. As a consequence of the measures the staff had lost certain statutory rights under the employment protection Acts.

The change had occurred perfectly legally in a way explicitly provided for in the Acts themselves. But there had nevertheless been a loss and the Government had thought it right to make an ex-gratia payment in respect of that loss.

There was (he said) no legal obligation on us to do so, but as a matter of equity, it was the right thing to do. It is as simple as that. Talk of bribery is absurd. (Labour shouts of : That's what it is). And talk of bribery to leave unions is even more demonstrably absurd for the simple reason that the payment will be made to union and non-union alike.

The Government fully recognized the importance of having a representative body which could talk to management on behalf of the staff. The Director of GCHQ had invited staff to make proposals for the formation of the staff association. The Government intended it to be strong and effective. It was expected to be established on a permanent basis and would represent all members of GCHQ, both industrial and non-industrial.

It was GCHQ's intention to bring the association into being as soon as possible after March 1, 1984.

A clear majority of GCHQ staff (he said) – over two thirds – have already decided to remain with the department under the new conditions of service. (Interruptions) I emphasize that these figures are authoritative and reliable, based on the returns actually received at GCHQ.

I hope that those who have still to answer will join the majority of their colleagues.

Only a tiny minority have asked for transfer to another part of the Civil Service. Every effort will be made to arrange a suitable transfer for those who have expressed the wish to leave. That will take some time, how long will depend on the numbers involved and on their qualifications.

There was no question of instant dismissal for those who had failed to respond by the deadline.

The offer (he continued) we have made to GCHQ staff remains open. As I have already said, a substantial majority have already accepted.

I should like to pay tribute once again to the skill and dedication with which the staff are doing their work. The conditions we have laid down are the only way to ensure that the results of that skill and dedication are never again put at risk.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said it was just over four weeks since the Foreign Secretary told the House he had decided to rob the loyal and dedicated men and women of GCHQ of their right to trade union membership.



Howe: Conflicting pressures

The decision had been taken without consulting representatives of the workers concerned, and without Sir Geoffrey Howe consulting even his colleagues in the Cabinet.

Since then, his daily contradictory statements had made him the laughing stock of the world. He had been attacked by fellow ministers, anonymously, as basing his decision on emotional and not intellectual judgment. He had been attacked publically by Conservative backbenchers, notably by the MP for Cheltenham (Mr Charles Irving) and the MP for Hendon North (Mr John Gorst) who described his action on the radio the other day as the nasty thin wedge of fascism.

The Conservaive newspapers had been even more outspoken. *The Daily Telegraph* had described his behaviour as little short of shambolic, the *Daily Express* called it authoritarian, and it had also been condemned by a select commitee to the House of Commons which had a majority of Conservative members.

More important still, the Government's decision had already done immense damage to the morale, not just of those at GCHQ, but to the Civil Service as a whole.

It was condemned by Lord Bancroft in a letter to *The Times* as breathtakingly inept and he was writing as a former head of the Civil Service.

The machinery of Government was now seething with discontent, in particular because the Government's decision was seen as a precedent for attacks on union membership in other security work, both public and private, and in other areas where continuity of operation was regarded by the Government as important.

The Foreign Secretary had said he had *no* intention of using the precedent elsewhere, but he recalled Sir Geoffrey Howe and the Prime Minister saying in election after election that they would not be cutting the health service.

The plain fact was that particular phrase was used by members of this Government in order to disguise a decision to do a certain thing by not actually denying that they did it.

For this Government (he said) the way to hell is paved with no intentions (Opposition laughter).

The question everyone had been asking was, why had the Foreign Secretary done it?

It was not because he believed trade unionists were likely to be spies because he knew that most of the spies since the war had been public schoolboys, scientists or Servicemen.

He had made the decision because disruption at GCHQ on certain occasions between 1979 and 1981 broke the continuity of work there and might have endangered lives and had concluded that membership of a trade union produced an unacceptable conflict of loyalties.

But the trade unions themselves had shown there was no predjudice to the essential operations at GCHQ at the time and the Foreign Secretary had told the select committee he had no evidence of damage being done.

Sir John Nott, when Secretary of State for Defence in April 1981 had told the House that actions by civil servants had in no way affected the operational capability in any area and they had shown great loyalty to governments of all kinds.

Against that background, for the Foreign Secretary to make the accusations he had in the House and elsewhere over the past four weeks, was an insult to the dedication of the workers at GCHQ and he ought to withdraw them.



Healey: Kick in teeth

If the action of the unions in 1979 was as dangerous as he tells us this afternoon (he went on), then it was a gross dereliction of duty for him not to have taken the action he is now proposing, at that time. Because since that time we have had serious international events in which the continuity of the operations at GCHQ was of vital importance to this country. Yet five years have passed.

There was a powerful case for guaranteeing continuity of operation at GCHQ, but the unions had now offered that in terms of a contract which was legally binding on individual employees. If the Government had had a spark of common sense it would have jumped at the offer made by the unions. The next Labour government would when the opportunity came.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said that two-thirds had signed already, but 40 per cent were not members of unions. Some union members might also have signed, but there was no doubt that a large number of dedicated men and women had not and would not sign.

The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary talked of conflicts of loyalty. They had forced on the staff the most damaging conflict of loyalty known to man: loyalty to principle against loyalty to family. They knew that in very many cases it was impossible, if they gave up work there, to find work anywhere else without breaking their family life.

One result of the Government action had been to give GCHQ more publicity in the past few weeks than over the past 40 years, risking the disruption of work there in one of the most dangerous periods in the post-war world.

He had not wasted time on the Foreign Secretary, but was bound to say that some of the Foreign Secretary's colleagues were tired of him hovering on their doorsteps with a bleeding hole in one foot and a smoking gun in hand saying: "I did not know it was loaded". (Labour laughter)

The Foreign Secretary was not the villain but the fall guy in this case.

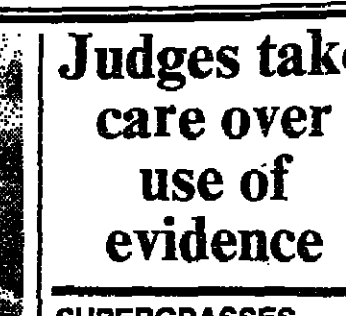
Mr Charles Irving (Chletenham, C) said none of this need have to occurred, and he was saddened that those responsible for the impasse had handled the matter with ineptitude and insensitivity beyond belief. (Labour cheers).

It seemed extraordinary that such an establishment could be reduced to the lowest possible morale in a comparatively short period. It was unbelievable.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab), the former Labour Prime Minister, said Mrs Thatcher seemed not to care about the necessity and the wisdom of trying to reach an agreement. That was one of her great weaknesses. She seemed to be indifferent to the rising tide of indignation.

Tory MPs should bring pressure to bear on the Government to change course. If it did not, it will colour the whole background of everything the Government did from now to the next general election.

Why did not Lord Carrington or Mr Francis Pym take action over GCHQ when they had responsibility? It is an insult to our intelligence for Sir Geoffrey Howe to say he had to wait until the British people knew about Cheltenham before this action could be taken.



Judges take care over use of evidence

SUPERGRASSES

Judges are taking superlative care in considering the uncorroborated evidence of supergrasses, Sir Michael Havers, attorney general, said during questions in the Commons.

He was replying at the end of exchanges on the use of supergrasses in Northern Ireland, raised when Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab) asked what further representations had been received.

Sir Michael Havers replied: I have received a number of representations on so-called supergrass trials, some approving and some disapproving use of such evidence. Some of these representations were disinterested and well-informed and some less so.

Mr Dubs: There is increasing concern about the use of uncorroborated evidence by informers in Northern Ireland. Will he think again about the practice on this?

It would be more sensible to see that justice is working effectively and impartially and that we use the same system in Northern Ireland as in the rest of the United Kingdom.

Sir Michel Havers: The same system is used. The use of informers is not limited to Northern Ireland. I suggest Mr Dubs reads again my detailed reply on October 24 last.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsbrough, Lab): The use of supergrasses is a violation of natural and legal justice. Not only that, they are in general perjured murderers, selling those hitherto their comrades, some suspect for money. In the long run that brings into disrepute British justice and is bound to have a bad affect and to increase the rate of killing.

Sir Michael Havers: I could not disagree more with practically everything Mr Flannery said. Evidence is generally not perjured: usually the evidence of the supergrass is not perjured but he is convicting himself on practically every occasion and he is dealt with by the courts before being called as a witness about those he has named.

Mr Alexander Carlisle (Montgomery, L): When does he expect to receive the report of Sir George Baker on judicial procedure? If it is accepted, will he take speedy action on the recommendations of that report?

Sir Michael Havers: I think the report will be available very shortly.

Mr John Morris: Opposition spokesman on legal affairs: While the law on informers is the same in both parts of the kingdom, the difficulty is the use of informers coupled with Diplock courts, giving no opportunity for a jury to be put in a position of evaluating the evidence.

There is concern, arising in part from that and also from the danger that witnesses might improve their evidence and add to the number he is giving evidence against and involving in the hope of even greater favours.

Sir Michael Havers: I would take more seriously the risk that judges are not applying proper directions to themselves on the dangers of evidence without corroboration if events and judgments over the past year had not shown that to be the opposition.

There was the remarkable case of the Chief Justice not long ago in which he acquitted six accused on the evidence of a supergrass.

It is clear to me and to all those who take a genuine interest that judges are taking superlative care about considering the uncorroborated evidence of supergrasses.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Welsh affairs. **Lords** (2.30): Housing and Building Control Bill, committee, first day.

Freedom of speech must not be put in danger

THE SPEAKER

Robust debate had always been a feature of our parliamentary system, but it should not be allowed to endanger freedon of speech, the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, said in a statement at the end of Commons question time, in a reference to the noisy question time last Thursday.

In a further reference to happenings in the House that day he said that the placing of prayer cards did not necessarily reserve that seat unless the MP had attended prayers.

The Speaker, in his statement, said: I want to draw attention to question time on Thursday last. Robust debate has always been a feature of our system, but robust debate does not extend to disruption, and particularly to interruptions from a sedentary position, which effectively ensure that speeches and questions cannot be heard. That was the case on Thursday.

I want to ask the House to remember that the broadcasting of our proceedings means that we can be heard but not seen and frequently this distorts what is going on in the Chamber.

I would also remind the House that when I was chosen your Speaker last June, I clained on your behalf in the House of Lords, the historical privilege of freedom of speech, so we have a supreme duty to set an example to those we represent in ensuring that freedom of speech is upheld in this Chamber.

Finally, I take this opportunity of reminding members, particularly new members, that the placing of prayer cards on a particular seat does not give that member a precriptive right to that seat unless he has occupied it for prayers.

I hope that in all this I shall have the unqualified support of the House (loud cheers).

Picnic areas next to motorways

Any proposals to set up picnic areas next to motorways would be considered seriously, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said in the Commons during question time.

She was asked by Sir Anthony Meyer (Clwyd North West, C) what plans she had for enhancing the tourist attraction of motorways.

He said there were far too few places for drivers to stop and stare and there was nowhere for them to stop for a decent meal or a picnic. He suggested she looked at facilities in other countries.

Mrs Chalker: Although motorways are intended primarily to facilitate safe and rapid journeys, great care is taken by landscaping and planting to make them and the service areas attractive to the user, as well as to fit them into the countryside through which they pass.

I have a good deal of sympathy with him about some of the developments in other countries which open up the country to the touring public. We are looking at the question of picnic areas and I will consider seriously any proposal put to me.

Mr John Wells (Maidstone, C): Will she look at the signposting on motorways of tourist attractions? For example, Leeds Castle, in my constituency, is one of the greatest tourist attractions in this nation and is within 100 yards of the motorway yet under present legislation there can be no sign to it. Can this be reviewed?

Mrs Chalker: I am looking at the whole question of signposting to places of historic interest. There is an experiment at present on trunk roads and, if this is successful, we will extend it.

Rail stoppage would damage image

COMMUTING

Action on Tuesday by railway staff in connexion with the dispute at GCHQ Cheltenham would damage the improving image of British Rail and its attempts to encourage passengers to use train services which is its real justification and the way ahead for its successful promotion, **Mr David Mitchell**, Under-Secretary of State for Transport, said during Commons questions.

His remarks came during exchanges in which Mr Peter Snape, an Opposition transport spokesman (West Bromwich East, Lab), asked if the minister was satisfied with travel conditions for peak period train commuters in London and the south-east.

Mr Mitchell replied: This will be covered in discussions we shall have with British Rail about further development of objectives for London and south-eastern services. These include such matters as load factors, punctuality, reliability and cleanliness.

Mr Snape: The latest reductions in train services in London and the South-East are the third in less than seven years. Southern Region have already made it plain that, given the further reductions, occupancy of peak hour trains will be up to 135 per cent. Is that not a step backwards for most southern commuters?

Mr Mitchell: The fact that this is the third change reflects individual changes in travelling patterns. He is labouring under some misapprehension about British Rail's intentions for maximum loading. They are that there should be 100 per cent in compartment stock, 110 per cent in gangway slam door stock and 135 per cent in fixed and sliding door stock specifically designed with additional standing room. All these peak loads are designed for the busiest part of the route at peak time only.

Mr Nigel Forman (Carshalton and Wallington, C): The vital need for commuters in my constituency is that British Rail trains should not be cancelled at short notice

This means that in many cases people have to wait a whole hour between services instead of half an hour, which is economically damaging and socially disruptive for the people concerned.

Mr Mitchell: I will draw the attention of the chairman of British Rail to those comments.

Mr Guy Barnett (Greenwich, Lab): Will he reconsider his answer after having travelled on some of the suburban trains in South London, where commuters are totally dependent, in many cases, upon those services and there is precious little standing room anyway?

Mr Mitchell: The special modern rolling stock with sliding doors has additional standing room, but I do not think it is operating in his constituency. Often trains arrive, particularly at central London stations, which are jam-packed in the front compartments but nearly empty at the rear.

Drinking a problem for policemen

HOUSE OF LORDS

There were many "horrendous anecdotes", in a report by the Policy Studies Institute on drinking, about excessive consumption of alcohol by police officers during working hours, Lord Avebury (L) said at question time in the House of Lords.

He inquired what instructions the Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) had given to the Metropolitan Police on this subject.

Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said the matter was dealt with in the police disciplinary code which provided that it was a disciplinary offence for a member of any police force while on duty and without proper authority from an officer of higher rank to drink or receive from any other person any intoxicating liquor. Responsibility for enforcing the disciplinary code within the Metropolitan police rested with the Commissioner of Police.

Lord Avebury suggested that special instructions were warranted by the Home Secretary in view of the revelations in the report.

Lord Elton said the report recognized that drinking was a problem in many occupational groups and, it might be, more of one in the police than in some others. It recognized preventative medicine as being a better way of dealing with it than heavy handed disciplinary action.

Research was already in hand to consider stress in the police and this had been widened to consider the related problem of drinking.

Lord Shinwell (IND): If there is some evidence that occasionally a policeman takes a nip of something is there anything remarkably wrong in that? Are we reaching the stage where policemen cannot even have a smoke in working hours?

Lord Elton: To put this into perspective, in 1983 a total of 18 officers were dealt with for drink offences under the disciplinary code. There are over 27,000 police officers in the Metropolitan Police.

Lord Avebury said it had been made plain by the institute that in the case of the CID this was an integral part of their working life.

Lord Elton replied that the offence applied to plainclothes officers and added, amid laughter: There are times when you cannot get information from a person in a pub by drinking orangeade.

One vote saves Government

An Opposition attempt to introduce a code of minimum standards for the new cable programmes was defeated by a single vote when the House of Lords considered the Cable and Broadcasting Bill on report stage.

Introducing a new clause to achieve this **Lord Mishcon**, for the Opposition, spoke of the danger that there would be an avalanche of the cheapest possible rubbish unless the cable authority set up a code of standards.

Resisting the proposal, **Lord Elton**, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said cable was not a public broadcasting service and there should be no attempt to bring in by the backdoor objectives which were appropriate for public broadcasting.

The new clause was rejected by 107 votes to 106 – Government majority, one.

Whitehall brief

Treasury told yawning gap threatens defence budget

By Peter Hennessy

Is Whitehall heading for its eighth defence review since 1945 when the Government's pledge to Nato to increase British defence spending by 3 per cent a year in real terms runs out in March, 1986?

Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, introducing the defence portion of the Government's public spending White Paper earlier this month was adamant that existing programmes and commitments could be financed even when the 3 per cent annual growth is a thing of the past.

Mr David Greenwood, director of the Centre for Defence Studies at Aberdeen University, Britain's leading source of independent analysis of the defence budget, is not so confident. Mr Greenwood, who predicted ahead of time the last defence review carried out under the direction of Sir John Nott, former Secretary of State for Defence in 1981, believes that by 1986-87, the Government could be forced into a serious reexamination of programmes such as the Trident replacement for Polaris and "Fortress Falklands".

Though the Ministry of Defence under Mr Michael Heseltine, its present Secretary of State, is making considerable strides in efficiency and improved management of big procurements, it has also gained a handy degree of flexibility this year in being allowed by the Treasury, should it underspend, to carry over up to 5 per cent of its capital budget

To illustrate his thesis, Mr Greenwood has produced for *The Times* a graph extrapolating the Government's defence spending plans as originally announced in the Chancellor's autumn statement (line B) and as modified in the Treasury's spending White Paper this month (line C). The Aberdeen estimate of what funding fully the planned defence spending will involve (line A) shows a substantial gap yawning by the late 1980s between aspirations and the cash allotted

Who is right, Mr Greenwood or Mr Stanley? Strangely enough, the Treasury, from which historically the initial pressure for defence review has arisen, reckons Mr Stanley is.

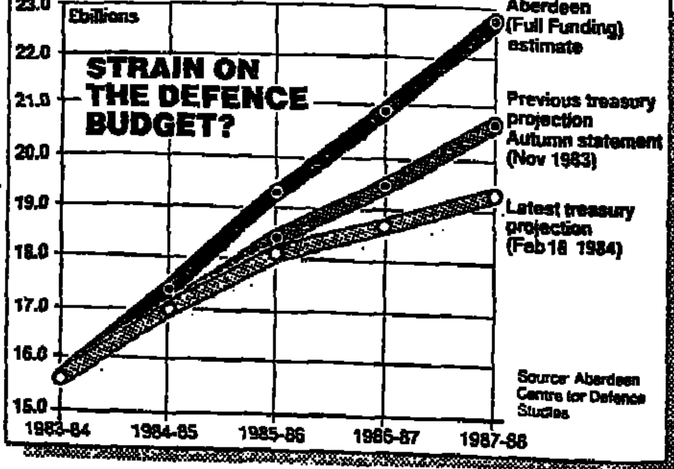
The Treasury sees no pressure on defence spending at the moment, indeed a smallish underspend is likely in 1983-84 in spite of a £240m cut in the defence cash limit last summer. For the Aberdeen estimate to be fulfilled, defence costs would have to be rising considerably faster than the general level of inflation.

The Treasury did not accept that thesis in the late 1970s when the Ministry claimed its prices were running about 2-3 per cent a year ahead of inflation. The Treasury denied the existence of a "defence relative price effect" then.

The Treasury pointed to three other factors which suggest that the mid-1980s should be defence review free. The era of "gold plating" weapons is past, and the attempt to sharpen the teeth at the expense of the tail has worked (the Ministry is spending 46 per cent of its budget on procurements now compared with 31 per cent in 1974).

Finally, the Treasury says, by March, 1986, there will have been a real increase in defence spending over seven years of between 20 and 30 per cent.

What will really happen? History teaches at least two lessons about the defence budget since 1945: ministers insist there is no problem until the last minute: every agonized reappraisal (1949, 1952-53, 1957, 1965, 1967-68, 1974-75, and 1981) was supposed to be the review to end all reviews.



Head teachers should start on probation, Joseph says

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Newly appointed head teachers should be put on one to two year's probation to make sure that they can do the job; if they cannot, they should be found "a jolly good" post elsewhere, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

His proposal to deal with tired or ineffective head teachers was disclosed at a one-day national conference in London on the selection of head teachers and was accompanied by a suggestion that head teachers who were "burnt out" could be moved to less demanding jobs on new, two-tier pensions.

The proposal for a probationary period was almost universally condemned by teachers' associations, which said it was impractical and unnecessary.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, which has more than 20,000 members in primary and secondary schools, said that it was ridiculous because it would put off applicants and create undue caution.

The local authorities, the headteachers' employers, which would have to agree to any new scheme are also understood to be sceptical.

Sir Keith said yesterday that he would consult both groups and called for a public debate on how head teachers should be selected for primary and secondary schools.

Arguing that the local authorities must be made responsible for operating a probation system, Sir Keith said: "Promise and potential for headship can be gauged at the time of selection, but actual performance and effectiveness as a head can only be ascertained in post.

"Management's need to know about current performance and effectiveness is nowhere so critical as in the post of head. If an appointed candidate turns out in practice to fall significantly short of the promise which led to his or her appointment, the consequences for the school and its pupils will be grave."

Explaining his idea for transferring "burnt-out" head teachers to less onerous tasks, Sir Keith said that it had been put to him that senior people in schools were forced by the pension rules to cling to demanding posts of higher responsibility

"This is an unplanned and unfortunate effect of the pension rules and I have decided that there would be merit in changing them so that those moving to less demanding posts have their pension rights protected."

He proposed that the final pension might be made up of two elements: the first in respect of service and final salary in the first job, protected against inflation, and the second in respect of service and salary in the second job.

That idea met with approval yesterday. Those who condemned Sir Keith's first proposal said that it showed that the minister did not understand how teachers became heads.

During questions to Sir Keith, Mr Peter Snape, general secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, called for the probationary period to apply to heads of department rather than head teachers.

Probation exists at present only for new teachers, and lasts for one year.

Mr Hart said that the vast majority of head teachers in trouble had been in post for five years or more.

71% back 'opt-out' transplant system

By David Nicholson-Lord

Three quarters of the public would let their organs be used to save another's life and would also support the "opt-out" system for donors in which the organs of a dead person are used for transplants unless they have recorded an objection.

Most people do not carry a donor card because they have never seriously thought about it.

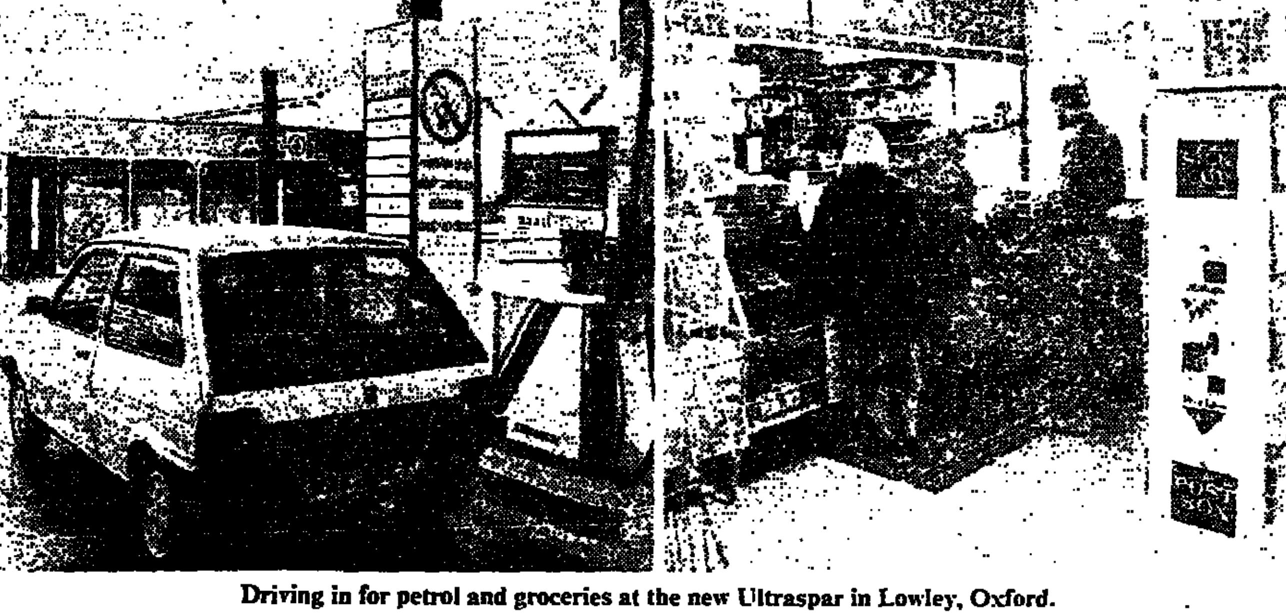
Only a quarter of the people questioned in a MORI poll last week had ever filled in a donor card, although 93 per cent had heard of the scheme. But fewer than half of those who had filled in a card were carrying one when interviewed.

The poll was commissioned for BBC1's *That's Life* television programme, which has recently campaigned over the shortage of organs for transplants after organizing an appeal to save the life of Ben Hardwick, the child given a liver transplant at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

The poll, of 1,113 adults in 55 constituencies, showed that 77 per cent would let their organs be used and 71 per cent supported the "opt-out" system, used in some other countries, with 23 per cent opposed to it.

If the opt-out system was introduced in Britain, only 14 per cent of those interviewed said they would object.

Only 3 per cent were opposed to transplants on principle



Driving in for petrol and groceries at the new Ultraspar in Lowley, Oxford.

Village shopping moves to the petrol station

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

A chain of convenience stores, combining groceries with petrol sales, is being planned for English village locations by the oil company Ultramar in conjuction with Spar, the grocery group.

Two thirds of Ultramar's 600 petrol stations are in villages and it has been concerned about the economic survival of these service stations for some time.

Mr John Auld, Ultramar's deputy managing director, said: "The village grocery store has a similar problem to the rural service station and we think that the marriage of these two units into one location will ensure their joint survival as a centre for the local community."

Many of Spar's 3,000 outlets are also in villages and as a result both organizations have specialist knowledge about the problems of retailing in rural areas.

The outlets, called Ultraspar, will number half a dozen by the end of the year.

The first six Ultraspar's will be on sites owned by Ultramar.

A floating laboratory to follow Darwin

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A new ship to be named today which follow a long line of vessels used by scientists as floating laboratories since Charles Darwin's voyage to the Galapagos Islands.

The Royal Research Ship Charles Darwin has been floated out of dry dock at Appledore Shipbuilders into the Torridge estuary, North Devon, to be named by the Prince of Wales.

The 2,370-ton ship, costing £7,250,000, bristles with electronic and microcomputer aids for the biologists, chemists, geologists and physicists.

One unique feature of the ship, built for the Natural Environment Research Council, is that some permanent laboratories are built in but others will be constructed, when required, in a container and bolted on to a deck.

About half of the Darwin's voyages will be geophysical and geological expeditions, many of which will need the ship to trail several kilometres of hydrophones. Research by biologists will be the next most common; they will need nets for obtaining samples from great depths as well as the surface.

The ability of the vessel to minimize noise and vibration from engines and propeller, with the computers that record data against position and time, will open a new generation of oceanographic research.

Lorry rules broken

New regulations increasing the maximum weight of lorries on British roads from 32 tonnes to 38 tonnes have done nothing to stop overloading (Robin Young writes).

Four tenths of the foreign registered vehicles checked on Kent roads since the regulations came into effect have been overloaded, in some instances by more than a third.

The Armitage report in 1980 estimated that up to one fifth of damage to roads is caused by overloading

Fifty nine drivers from 11 countries have been prosecuted for 76 offences against the new regulations in Kent alone.

Customs man 'smuggled'

A customs official tried to smuggle 16 bottles of spirits into Britain, Warwick Crown Court was told yesterday.

But Harold Bruce's aircraft was diverted from Luton, where he was based, to Birmingham airport, Mr Peter Crane, for the prosecution, said.

Mr Bruce, aged 45, bought 19 bottles of spirits on a weekend trip to Spain, Mr Crane said.

He declared three of them at Birmingham airport and complained of stomach pains.

Mr Bruce, who denies evading duty, said that he gave the bottles to passengers because he could not afford the duty.

The hearing continues today.

Motorists advertise to win Shell prize

By Robin Young

A small, and probably misguided, increase in newspaper advertising is resulting from Shell's "Make Money" promotional campaign for its petrol.

Advertisements are beginning to appear, placed by motorists who have one half of notes which carry denominations up to £10,000 and are seeking those who have the elusive other half so that they can jointly claim the prize.

"If someone is advertising that they have the right-hand side of the note, you can bet it is the left-hand side that is the rare one," a Shell official said yesterday. "Losing vouchers are not even two a penny. They are free bedause drivers can claim one each time they visit one of our stations. No purchase is necessary."

Shell last ran a "Make Money" promotion in 1966 when it was a big success, increasing sales by 80 per cent and forcing Esso to devise its "tiger in your tank" advertising.

Shell does not expect any repetition of the 1966 "Make Money" craze this time, although the top prizes have been increased from £100 to £10,000. There are a million and a quarter prizes, from 50p up, to be claimed by June 21, and the total prize money is believed to be about £1m.

It is too early to say how the promotion is affecting sales", Shell said, "but we are aware that there is more activity on the forecourts."

What is not clear is how much of the activity consists of motorists driving in, claiming and opening envelopes, and driving away in disappointment.

Social workers fly to Caribbean in drugs inquiry

Social workers from two London boroughs flew to the Caribbean island of St Vincent yesterday to investigate reports that 15 teenagers in council care were involved in cannabis smoking, glue sniffing, robbery, and violence.

The children in the care of Camden or Lewisham after being involved in court proceedings in London, were sent to the £350-a-week progressive reform school, Richmond Vale Academy, for a year

Charlton play on after £159,678 tax debt offer

Charlton Football Club won another reprieve in the High Court yesterday when Mr Mark Hulyer, chairman of the club told the court that his Swiss-based company, Marman had agreed to pay the club's tax debts of £159,678.

The case was adjourned until today

The fourth division club, Stockport County, which has tax debts of £72,833 had its winding-up petition by the Inland Revenue struck out

Skiers sceptical about expanding Aviemore

From Ronald Faux, Aviemore

Skiers at Aviemore, Scotland's principal ski centre, at the weekend were sceptical about the Government's guidelines for a doubling there of downhill ski capacity.

A constant stream of cars and coaches carrying skiers from England and southern Scotland wound its way up to the lifts on Cairn Gorm. By mid-morning a large upper car park nearest the lifts was full and a lower park was filling rapidly.

Mr Robert Clyde, manager of the chair lift company, was busy directing traffic and had little time to wonder what an increase to 10,000 on his ski slopes would mean, or comment on the Scottish Development Department's views. But it was clear from the long queues and crowded restaurants that Cairn Gorm was stretched to the limit.

A ski instructor objected to the way the argument about development had polarized skiers and conservationists when most hill users were sympathetic to some of the arguments on both sides.

He said: "I cannot see how it will be possible to spread beyond the present grounds without screams of protests, and doubling up the lifts capacity in the present ski areas simply would not work". Cairn Gorm would look like an overcrowded Lowry with 10,000 people skiing on it.

He added: "Only four out of hundreds of high mountains in Scotland have been developed for skiing. So it is hard to suggest this is some massive threat to the peace of the countryside. Thousands of people enjoy skiing and they have rights as well."

Mr Fred Harper, principal of the Scottish Outdoor Training Centre at Glenmore Lodge, near Aviemore, who is a skier and a mountaineer, thought the two sides could be reconciled. The guidelines showed clearly the need to increase capacity on a fairly large scale yet on Cairn Gorm development would be limited by the existing restrictions.

The argument is clearly far from settled and skiers will continue to cast covetous eyes at Braeriach, a mount neighbour of Cairn Gorm where there are eight large snowfields at ski runs of up to three miles. For the time being, they are classed as a "no go area" by the guidelines, although many believe that it is only slopes of such high potential that will attract the multi-million pound investment necessary for the next large expansion of Scottish skiing.

Pretoria denies timetable has been agreed for Namibia settlement

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South African officials expressed annoyance yesterday at what they consider to be premature reports, emanating mainly from Washington, which set out a stage-by-stage timetable for an internationally acceptable settlement in Namibia by the end of the year.

A number of South African newspapers, quoting Washington officials and other unspecified diplomatic sources, suggested that the peace plan envisaged the following steps:

● The 1,000 to 1,500 South African troops still estimated to be in southern Angola would be withdrawn over the next three weeks or so, after which the Angolan Government would announce that the conditions had been created for the departure of the 25,000 to 30,000 Cubans in Angola.

● The South African Government would, in turn, announce that as a result of the "pending departure" of the Cubans, it would begin implementing UN Security Council Resolution 435, and start running down its forces in Namibia.

● The United States would also announce that, with Luanda's statement of intent on the removal of the Cubans, it was now possible for Washington to open diplomatic relations with Angola.

● In accordance with Resolution 435, Untag, the special UN peacekeeping force, would then move into Namibia to monitor a ceasefire there between South African troops and Swapo (South-West Africa People's Organization) guerrillas, and supervise elections to an independent constituent assembly.

The whole process is envisaged as taking between eight and nine months.

Asked to comment on the reports, a South African Foreign Ministry official told *The Times* that it was far too early for South Africa to commit itself to an "artificial timetable" of this kind. "We are opposed to this sort of artificial grand design which raises expectations which it may not be possible to meet."

The settlement scenario would require concessions from both Angola and South Africa on the Cubans. Hitherto Pretoria has insisted that all the Cuban troops must be removed before a start can be made on implementing Resolution 435. They would now be asked instead to accept a statment of intent on the Cubans.

The Angolans, for their part, would have to acknowledge a de facto link between the Cubans and a Namibia settlement, something they have refused to do so far.

The reported timetable also glosses over the problem posed by the civil war between the MPLA government in Luanda and the South African-backed Unita rebels of Dr Jonas Savimbi, whose writ runs in much of east and South-east Angola.

It is presumed that a tacit element of the agreement reached between Angola and South Africa in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, on February 16 is an understanding that South African support for Unita will be scaled down, making a reconciliation between Unita and Lusanda easier.

Another possible complicating factor is lingering doubt over Angola's ability to control the Swapo guerrillas

South African concern on this point seems to have been allayed for the moment at a meeting in the southern Angolan bush last Saturday of the joint Pretoria-Luanda monitoring commission set up in Lusaka.

Hostages face long ordeal

By Richard Dowden

After nearly a year of threats Unita, the Angolan rebel organization, has finally struck at one of the pillars of the Angolan economy by attacking the diamond mine at Kafunfu.

It appears that a brigade which has been moving north for several weeks attacked at 4am last Thursday and seized 75 foreign workers after a short gun battle with the Angolan Army unit assigned to protect the mine.

They occupied the Kafunfu township for about 24 hours and four or five houses were destroyed together with much of the transport, though the fuel dump and strangely the diamonds stored at the sorting houses were apparently untouched.

Kafunfu is the tiny headquarters of a widespread mining operation some 200 miles to the west of the main diamond mining areas. It is an outpost of the twentieth century in an ocean of African bush. Its only safety lay in its distance from the main Unita base about 700 miles to the south.

Mineworkers interviewed there last August expressed far more concern about a Unita raiding party which operated from Zaire than they did about guerrillas making the long march from the south.

The guerrilla band was most likely to have been the brigade which has been making its way north for some time. It consists of about 2,000 men but estimates of the number of attackers at Kafunfu are between 800 and 1,000. It has a base about 100 miles north of Luso consisting of timber and thatch huts, a command post equipped with a sophisticated radio, a hospital and a football pitch.

Armed with Kalashnikov's, Chinese 12.7mm anti aircraft guns, Sam missiles and rocket launchers, the guerrilla band would have easily overwhelmed the Angolan Army unit and it will now be able to return south with the hostages acting as a shield.

Last year Unita took 64 Czechoslovaks and 20 Portuguese hostage from a factory at Alto Catumbela and marched them to the Unita headquarters at Jambo near Mavigna. Thirty-eight of them, including women and children, were released in July but about 20 are still being held.

At first Unita demanded the release of the one Irish and six British mercenaries held in prison in Luanda since 1975 but later dropped this demand when it became clear that the British and Angolan Governments were not interested in its deal.

Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, has always tried to remain on good terms with Western companies operating in Angola.

In the case of the diamond mines this is particularly ironic as De Beers, the South African multinational company which hold a virtual monopoly of world diamond production, has a small holding in Diamang the Angolan state-owned diamond company. It also controls Mining and Technical Services which employs the mining technicians.

South Africa is Dr Savimbi's main backer and provides it with its logistical and materiel support. The question is now whether the South Africans will or can prevent Unita upsetting their new accord with Angola.

The hostages face at least three weeks of travel through the scrub and bush, waking before dawn marching till sundown with a two-hour break in the heat of the day. Only one of the Czechoslovaks, a diabetic, died on the long march south.

Hundreds of actors sacked for striking

From Mario Modiano
Athens

Hundreds of Greek actors who staged a 24-hour strike for higher pay on Saturday lost their jobs when their employers, both state and privately-owned theatres, closed down and cancelled their contracts.

The actors' strike was called when the theatre owners rejected the communist-led Actors' Union demands for a 10 per cent salary rise, plus a 10 per cent family allowance. They offered instead the government-sanctioned index-linked 8.9 per cent.

Minutes before the strike was to take effect the Ministry of Labour invoked the compulsory arbitration procedures under which all strike action must cease pending a ruling. When the actors defied the ban employers were told that under the law this amounted to a breach of contract.

The dispute took on strong political overtones when the Socialist Government accused the Actors' Union of siding with the Greek Communist Party (KKE) which was undermining the Government's incomes policy. The Actors Union is led by Miss Emilia Ypsilanti, a Communist member of Parliament.

There are increasing signs in fact that KKE which had so far shown extraordinary tolerance towards the Government's tight-fisted pay policies, is now beginning to distance itself from these politically-costly practices in view of the elections for the European Parliament next June, which might yet be combined with early national elections.

The Communists now criticize the Government for invoking the compulsory arbitration procedures

The strength of the Government's feeling on this issue was illustrated by the fact that while the state theatres are not involved in the dispute, they joined the private theatres in what the actors call a lock-out.

At the National Theatre in Athens on Sunday the performance was broken off soon after it began by an announcer who invoked "technical reasons". But Miss Ypsilanti leapt on the stage and cried out: "That is a lie. They are not letting us perform".

Russia starts new SS20 rocket site

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Soviet Union has begun building its first new missile site to target on Western Europe since the late President Brezhnev declared a moratorium on building such bases nearly two years ago. The Foreign Office disclosed this last night after Western diplomats had been briefed by United States officials at the recent meeting of Nato's Special Consultative Group.

The intelligence findings have come at a time when, ironically, Western governments have been hoping for better East-West relations in the wake of the change of leadership in Moscow.

But the sources point out that work on the site ust have started several months ago, probably around last August, about the time the late President Andropov made his last appearance in public.

The number of Soviet SS20 missiles, each of which has three warheads, has continued to rise since Brezhnev announced his moratorium, but this applied only to existing sites, where they have been replacing the older SS4s and SS5s.

At present, the Soviet Union has deployed a total of 378 SS20s, of which 243, or 749 warheads, have been targeted on Western Europe. The new site in the western districts of the Soviet Union will probably raise the total by nine missiles, or 27 independent warheads.

In a statement yesterday regretting the Soviet decision to start building new bases again, the Foreign Office also confirmed that the West has 25 comparable weapons now deployed

"This number is planned to rise slowly over five years", the statement said, "but the deployment programme will be halted or reversed as soon as success in arms control negotiations warrants it".

It added: "To suggest that the deployment of more SS20s can be justified as a counterweight to Nato's first deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles is preposterous".

Apart from the SS20s, the Russians also appeared now to be deploying their SS12 and new SS22 shorter-range missiles further forward in East Germany and Czechoslovakia, the statement went on.

Britain opposes EEC food price rises

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Britain stood firm against any increase in agricultural prices when EEC farm ministers met in Brussels yesterday. The meeting was the start of a series of negotiating sessions which are meant to agree essential reforms and save the Community from bankruptcy.

Mr Michael Jopling, the British Minister, argued that even proposed increases of 1.5 per cent for beef and sheep meat were more than the Community could afford. Given the fact that the "beef mountain" had nearly doubled in size last year, he said: "This is not a very sensible proposal".

He also argued that there was a case for price cuts on both milk and cereals, which are both products in heavy surplus in the Community. He emphasized that a price freeze on these products would last even longer than a year.

Although a number of countries supported his arguments, he was all on his own in rejecting the idea of getting rid of "green" currency rates – a cross border system of taxes on agricultural imports and exports designed to protect farmers against currency fluctuations.

Recent anger among French farmers has been principally directed at these green rates, because they believe it gives unfair profit levels to British and West German farmers, who benefit from being paid in strong currencies.

● PARIS: An invitation by El Salvador to the European nations to send independent observers to its forthcoming presidential elections next month (March) was the only area of disagreement in wide-ranging foreign policy discussions held by the 10 member countries of the European Community in Paris yesterday (Diana Geddes writes).

Britain believed it would be a good idea to send observers, as did Belgium and Holland. However, France, Ireland, Denmark and Greece had all expressed strong reservations.

McGovern in New Hampshire

Lively ghost of the protest generation

From Nicholas Ashford
Manchester, New Hampshire

ELECTION 84

It could have almost been a scene from *The Big Chill*. The audience were mainly in their early 40s, members of the 1960s protest generation approaching middle age. On stage at the Palace Theatre was Arlo Guthrie, Troubadour of that bygone era, singing songs like "Alice's Restaurant" and "Blowing in the Wind".

Joining him on stage was another ghost from those days, Mr George McGovern, the man who led the drive to get the United states out of Vietnam and who went on to suffer the most humiliating defeat in a presidential election at the hands of Mr Richard Nixon in 1972.

But despite the ridicule which was heaped upon him last autumn when he announced his decision to seek the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination, Mr McGovern has suddenly become a very real factor in the campaign.

No one is poking fun at him any more. His third place showing in the Iowa caucuses a week ago has demonstrated that his unvarnished brand of liberalism (which had become a dirty word in the political lexicon of the 1980s) still has appeal.

But it is not just his attacks on the Reagan Administration's defence budget or his unashamed espousal of New Deal economic policies which is provoking renewed interest in his candidacy. It is also the calm, coherent way he has been putting his views across.

Clearly aware that he cannot hope to challenge Mr Walter Mondale's front-runner position, Mr McGovern has concentrated more on discussing issues than running after votes. As a result his campaign speeches have been more relaxed, good-natured and persuasive (and more warmly applauded) than those of his seven rivals.

For the past week Mr McGovern has been attracting crowds and inspiring enthusiasm as he has trudged around New Hampshire trying to drum up support for today's critical primary election.

Unlike the other candidates he is not accompanied by a posse of secret servicemen or a retinue of aides and hangers-on. He travels only with a driver and his press agent and sometimes his wife. Since Iowa there is also an accompanying troupe of television camera teams and newspaper reporters.

Not long ago most American journalists were writing off Mr McGovern's decision to enter the 1984 race as an attempt to salvage his political reputation. Now they are talking about the "McGovern phenomenon".

"No one is likely to walk away from this race with more respect and affection than George McGovern", wrote David Broder, the distinguished political commentator of the *Washington Post*. "By stating his views with such candour, and offering himself with such self-deprecating charm, McGovern has gained . . . an honoured place for himself at the San Francisco Democratic convention, and the prospect of a major position if there should be a Democratic administration in 1985."

Despite the attention which Mr McGovern is receiving, no one (probably not even himself) expects his candidacy to survive much beyond the Massachusetts primary on March 13 (Massachusetts was the only state he carried in 1972). The question which still remains unanswered is: Why did he decide to run in the first place?

McGovern is deliberately ambiguous on this point, although he insists that he genuinely wants to become President.

When asked the question, he usually starts by replying with a joke. "I am the only candidate without a job at present. Besides, my apartment burnt down last May so I don't even have a place to live.

But undoubtedly the main need that house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue."

reason why he is running is to focus attention on what he believes should be the real issues of the campaign.

"Last September I was the only candidate calling for the immediate withdrawal of our troops from Lebanon", he told the audience at the Palace Theatre. "If my advice had been taken 264 or our boys would still be alive today.

Apart from his espousal of dovish foreign policies and liberal economic programmes, Mr McGovern has also sought to direct the Democrats' fire at President Reagan rather than at each other.

"People say that Mr Reagan is a nice guy. But I don't think it is very nice to allocate $40 billion (£27.5 billion) to the MX missile, which we don't need, and then knock three million kids out of the school lunch programme," he said to loud applause.



Still game: Senator John Glenn finishing a game of bowls before going into battle in today's Democratic primary in New Hampshire

Another normal day in Beirut

From Robert Fisk,
Beirut

The French language Beirut newspaper *L'Orient le Jour* got it about right yesterday morning. "Normal day in Beirut", its front page headline said. "six dead, eleven wounded".

Yesterday was a normal day too. By early evening, shelling along the capital's front line had killed three people – one of them a 10-year-old boy – and wounded another 19. Another ceasefire, it was said, was in the offing.

But Mr Rafik Hariri, the Saudi negotiator between Lebanon and Syria, had delayed his return to Beirut after being summoned to talk with King Fahd in Riyadh. So whatever truce he might have been working on was postponed again, with the usual results.

So heavy was the artillery fire across the line during the morning that even the French troops controlling the Museum crossing point – one of whom died on Sunday under mortar fire – were forced to close the only road between east and west Beirut.

As always in a vacuum here, and the withdrawal of the US Marines on Sunday left quite a vacuum behind them, the Beirut press has been left to supply the substance of political progress. In the leftist paper *Al Liwa* former President Franjieh, Syria's closest ally in northern Lebanon, quotes President Amin Gemayel as saying that the unofficial peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel is but "a corpse in the mortuary awaiting burial".

Beirut state radio hinted that Mr Gemayel was now committed to the treaty's abrogation and that the Lebanese President might soon meet President Assad of Syria. There was no public comment from Mr Gemayel himself. Nor, ominously, was there any word from the Christian militias who theoretically support him.

There was certainty in Beirut yesterday about only one thing: Israel's increased interest in the city now that the American Marines have left. For almost an hour during the morning, four high-altitude Israeli jets – two more than usual – circled repeatedly over the abandoned US fortifications around Beirut airport which have now been taken over by Shia Muslim militiamen.

By midday, the sky over the capital was filled with circular white trails before the jets turned south for home. For their part, the militias believe it is only a matter of time before the Isralis decide to bomb the old Marine base at the airport.

Showing the flag: A Lebanese soldier patrolling the former US Marine base near Beirut airport.

Husain, Arafat in secret session

From Christopher Walker, Amman

The complex negotiations between King Husain of Jordan and Mr Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, moved into high gear yesterday, when they met alone for the first time since April in an effort to iron out differences on a common approach to the future of the occupied West Bank.

Observers noted that it was at similar private sessions last year that progress was made towards drafting the document of cooperation eventually abandoned under pressure from radical groups inside the PLO, acting under the influence of the rejectionist regimes in Syria and Libya.

Although the document has never been published, diplomats who have seen it claim that, despite its rhetoric, it contained matters of substance which could assist the peace process. PLO officials here said the new talks were picking up from where "they broke off last April".

Strict secrecy surrounded details of the controversial tête-a-tête which took place over lunch at the palace and was followed by a further session of the larger negotiating teams which met for four hours on Sunday.

But officials from both sides spoke with guarded optimism of the cordial atmosphere which has surrounded the discussions so far. It was felt that, following the civil war inside the PLO, which had deprived Mr Arafat of his military option, he may now be freer from the constraints which prevented any agreement last year.

Both the King and the PLO team seem to be in agreement on opposition to President Reagan's peace plan, announced in September 1982. The Jordanian monarch has emphasized repeatedly in recent months that he regards the initiative as "frozen", because the United States had not fulfilled the condition of preventing the building of more Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

The summit in Amman is taking place amid some of the strictest security seen in the Jordanian capital because of the fierce hostility to any successful outcome which has been expressed both from Syria and from splinter groups inside the PLO such as the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Alia, the national Jordanian airline, has imposed unprecendented searching procedures. At Athens yesterday, passengers heading for Amman were subjected to rigorous extra checks on board the plane by four Jordanian security men. The station manager said the measures had been imposed on all Alia flights in recent weeks following a foiled sabotage attempt at Paris.

Mr Arafat, who was spotted yesterday sporting a pistol at his waist, is being housed in style in the Jordanian monarch's heavily-guarded guest palace.

France still refuses to compensate UK hauliers

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

France is still refusing to compensate British lorry firms held up in last week's blockade, despite continued pressure by the British Government.

Meanwhile, French roads were reported to be clear yesterday with blockages remaining only in the Brenner Pass between Austria and Italy, where Austrian drivers took retaliatory action against the French over the weekend.

Apart from about £160 paid out to some lorry drivers individually, the French Government has so far resisted claims from Britain's hauliers which could add up to £3m-£5m for delays and frustrated journeys.

Mr Freddie Plaskett, director-general of the Road Haulage Association, met Mr Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, last night, and the Freight Transport Association said it was also continuing to press the Government to seek compensation from the French.

● ROME: Signor Claudio Signorile, the Italian Minister of Transport, has condemned the continued block of the Brenner Pass by lorry drivers, saying it is a protest that is no longer justified. He called on the men to send representatives to talk to him and to other members of the Government (Peter Nichols writes).

In a speech here yesterday he said that the Government had abided by the agreement worked out two weeks ago with the Italian lorry drivers' union. He added that on Saturday the Cabinet had agreed as well to bring Italian customs arrangements into line with those adopted by the European Community.

● INNSBRUCK: Lorry drivers blocking the Brenner and other border crossings from Austria to Italy pledged to continue their strike as an "ultimatum" to the Italian Government passed. (AP reports).

EEC condemns Swiss levies

Brussels (AP) – The European Community Commission expressed concern about special motorway taxes for lorries and cars that were approved in a nationwide referendum in Switzerland on Sunday.

The levies were discriminatory and would be discussed shortly in Berne, it said. From next year foreign cars must pay a 30-franc (£9.50) annual fee and lorries over 3.5 tons between 500 and 3,000 francs.

Swedes lob grenades in hunt for submarines

Stockholm (AP) – The Swedish Navy hurled hand grenades and fired machine guns into the water last night in the eighteenth day of operations against suspected alien submarines and frogmen inside the Karlskrona navel base.

This followed the detonation of an explosive charge late on Sunday at the entrance to the base from which foreign vessels and land traffic are forbidden.

Regular signals were still coming up of underwater activity that should not be going on, a defence staff spokesman said. "We may be dealing with a task force of several mini submarines alien divers and a mother submarine waiting outside".

Rebels hinder Kabul reforms

Delhi (AP) – Kabul has been unable to implement fully its land reforms programme because of the "undeclared war" being waged by the rebels with US backing, President Babrak Karmal told officials.

Feudalism had been defeated and the back of the big landlords broken since the 1978 coup, he said. The land reforms would go through but by persuasion and not by forcing them down farmers' throats.

Death demand

Yaounde (AP) – Military prosecutors asked for the death penalty for former Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo and life prison terms for two of his alleged co-conspirators in a plot last year to overthrow the Biya Government. Ahidjo, who lives in France, is being tried in absentia.

Fish waste

Esbjerg (AP)–Denmark's fishermen say they are staying in port until the EEC rules on how much consumer fish can be caught with industrial fish, such as sprat and sperling, are changed. To avoid fines they have to throw too many herring, cod and haddock over the side.

Activist free

Durban (Reuter) – A leading Indian political activist, Billy Nair, released yesterday after 20 years in jail was met by his wife, well-wishers and police, some in riot gear. Mr Nair, jailed for being a member of the outlawed African National Congress, spent 18 years on Robben Island.

Peace quest

Addis Ababa (AFP) – President Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia, opening the Organization of African Unity council of ministers here, said the escalation of conflicts and misunderstandings had made the yearning for peace even more pressing.

Sadr backed

Nouakchott (AFP) – Mauritania has recognized the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) set up eight years ago by the Polisario guerrillas in Western Sahara. It is the twenty-seventh African country to do so.

Lesotho poll

Maseru (Reuter) – The Lesotho Government is to spend about £2.5m preparing for general elections this year, the Finance Minister Mr Khetle Rakhetla told Parliament. Lesotho has had no elections since Chief Leabua Jonathan seized power in 1970.

Madrid chaos

Madrid – A total shutdown of Madrid's Metro underground system led to traffic chaos in the capital all day yesterday. The workers who have rejected a 6.5 per cent pay rise offer, defied a government order to maintain a minimal service in peak hours.

Soldiers hurt

Mombasa (AP) – Twenty-six men of the Royal Irish Rangers were injured at the weekend when a lorry carrying them rolled over as the driver dodged a pedestrian. Seven were taken to hospital but were said to be satisfactory.

Killer landslide

Jakarta (Reuter) – Twenty-five people were feared dead in a landslide caused by monsoon rains in the Simalungun district of north Sumatra. Many were gathering for a wake in a house when the landslide struck.

Panama runner

Panama City (AFP) – Panama's ruling PRD party has nominated an army-backed economist, Señor Nicolás Ardito Barletta, as its candidate for President in the election on May 6.

Barbecued rats

Corrientes, Argentina, (AFP) – The custodian of a small zoo near here has been arrested for barbecuing seven rare cabiais, the world's largest rodents from the zoo.

Punjab leaders held in Delhi after demanding autonomy

From Our Correspondent, Delhi

Despite police precautionary measures the former Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal, was able to reach Delhi yesterday disguised as a lorry driver, and burn Article 25 of the Indian Constitution which lumps Sikhs together with Hindus. He was remanded in custody till March 10.

There was also a ritual burning of the constitution in Chandigarh. Nine Akali Sikh leaders were arrested. Under Indian law a person burning the constitution can be sentenced up to three years' imprisonment.

The burning of the constitution is the second stage of the Akali Sikh agitation which has been going on for the past one and a half years. The protesters are demanding greater autonomy for Punjab and a court order on the sharing of rivers waters between Punjab and Haryana.

The Akalis are also insisting that they are a separate nation and that they should have a separate basic law; hence their resentment against being lumped together with the Hindus.

In Delhi yesterday Hindus protested against the protestors and the burning of the constitution and all markets and shops, including those owned by Sihks and Muslims, were closed. The capital appeared deserted although public transport was not affected.

Delhi is awash with rumours that Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government was poised for a commando-type operation in the Golden Temple, the Sikh shrine at Amritsar, where the extremists are said to have taken refuge after indiscriminate killings of Hindus.

Hatred masks fear in two Indian states

From Kuldip Najar, Delhi

A visitor to the north Indian states of Punjab and Haryana soon tastes the tension there – raw, open and ominous. The Hindus and the Sikhs are distant neighbours now.

People are fear-stricken and horrified and many among them still wear the snarling mob mask. Burnt-out religious places, destroyed houses and looted properties tell the story of the hysteria that has gripped the two communities in both states in the past few days.

The death toll in one week alone hit 50. Detail by detail, the accounts reflected the wild rage that had galvanized members of the two communities into warring groups.

I heard different versions of killings and destruction, the Hindus blaming the Sikhs and vice versa. But impartial observers did not corroborate these reports. It was obvious that the Hindus had fomented the trouble in Haryana to avenge the suffering of their coreligionists in Punjab and the Sikhs, in turn, had stoked the fires in Punjab, where the Sikh extremists are still indulging in casual killings.

Most policemen in both states are "contaminated", their superiors make no secret of it.

Often the Government has been caught napping in Punjab, where Delhi rules directly through Mr B. D. Pandey, the Governor, and in Haryana, where it is in constant touch with Mr Bhajan Lal, the Chief Minister.

There was no doubt that the governments on both sides had been inert and complacent and the authorities had connived at the doings in Haryana as much as they had done in Punjab. Many people told me the names of officials – and politicians – involved.

Most worrisome is the unabating anger in both communities. They are uncertain about their future and realize that they have to live together but they are unwilling to speak out against the excesses of their own community. They give the impression of being with the lawless and acting in a manner which they think will pay political dividends.

Philippine teachers stage mass walkout

From Keith Dalton, Manila

School teachers staged a mass walkout in the Philippine capital yesterday in defiance of anti-strike laws and tough warnings from President Marcos that legal action will be taken against them.

The Ministry of Education reported that 17,000 teachers had walked out in Manila with similar walkouts reported in other cities.

The mass action could spread in the next few days with calls for a nationwide walkout by elementary and high school teachers. They are demanding an immediate 40 per cent wage increase and improved conditions.

Teachers are banned from holding strikes and forming trade unions under the constitution and so they are on "mass leave".

Of all government employees teachers are among the lowest paid, receiving a basic monthly wage of about £45. They want that raised to £90 a month plus allowances that would more than double their salary.

Few buyers for Franco newspapers

From Harry Debelius Madrid

The liquidation of Franco's National Movement newspaper chain continued yesterday when eight more of the 21 dailies to be sold this year were offered to the highest bidder. Another six were closed last year.

Once a potent propaganda tool, the newspaper chain is being sold off link by link for two good reasons: most of the papers lose money and, as a group, they have embarrassed the post Franco authorities because of their history.

The Government proposes to get rid of the newspaper chain by May, even if it means closing some papers for lack of buyers.

So far this year, only three newspapers offered for sale, found buyers. They were *Gaceta Regional* of Salamanca, which lost 17m pesetas (£78,000) in 1982; *Nueva Espana* of Huesca, in the Pyrenees, with losses of 14.5m pesetas in 1982 and *La Nueva Espana*, of the northern city of Oviedo, with 1982 profits of 13.5m pesetas.



Hope eternal: Bob Hope and his wife Dolores, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary at the "Gala for Hope" fundraising event for the National Parkinson Foundation, attended by more than 1,400 people in Miami, Florida.

Basques vote against terrorism

From Richard Wigg, Vitoria

A rise of almost 10 per cent in the total poll in Sunday's Basque general election was widely interpreted yesterday as a huge vote by the Basque people against terrorism and for their own institutions of self government under Spain's democratic constitution as more people voted for the parties which denounced terrorism.

Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, was among those publicly recognizing the significance of almost 42 per cent of the total poll won by the Basque Nationalist Party which increased its share of the poll by 100,000 votes compared with the first Basque autonomous elections four years ago, despite spiralling terrorism as the campaign ended.

Their voters preferred quietly to endorse four years creating the region's autonomous institutions though they all oppose violence by the armed separatists of ETA.

Señor González was also able to congratulate his own Socialist Party which, with 23 per cent of the votes cast doubled its feeble 1980 performance.

The Socialist vote, helped by an upsurge of sympathy after Thursday's killing by a breakaway faction of ETA of Señor Enrique Casas Vila, a leading candidate, was significant not only in the struggle against terrorism.

The radical coalition failed to make the breakthrough in its attempt to elect a leader of the Basque working class, despite the local Socialists having to bear responsibility for rising unemployment in the heavily industrialized Basque region during the 14 months of Socialist government in Madrid. The coalition dropped 17,000 votes compared to the October 1982 general election

The coalition, which obtained 11 seats, the same number as in 1980, though the Basque Parliament has been enlarged to 75 members instead of 60, yesterday indicated none of its members will take their seats. This follows ETA's line that the home rule achieved is inadequate.

This means that though the Basque Nationalist Party advanced with 32 MPs it lacks a working majority this time.

Negotiations are likely between the parties. While some Socialists would like a coalition, the chairman of the Basque Nationalist Party suggested yesterday it might be better to govern alone "than in bad company".

Disused synagogue gutted on eve of neo-Nazi trial

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

A former synagogue in Düsseldorf was set on fire and gutted over the weekend on the eve of the trial in Frankfurt yesterday of eight leading neo-Nazis accused of torturing a former member of their group.

Police suspect right-wing extremists of setting the disused synagogue on fire. The synagogue and 12 other buildings were daubed with swastikas, SS symbols, a star of David and the word "Jew".

The little brick building, last used as a synagogue in 1909, was used as a gaarage for two cars, but a number of local residents had proposed turning it into a memorial to the persecution of the Jews.

On trial in Frankfurt are the leaders of a group called the Action Front of the National Socialists/National Activists, recently proscribed by the Minister of the Interior.

It is led by Michael Kühnen, aged 23, a former Bundeswehr lieutenant who has already served a prison sentence for inciting racial hatred

Eight of his supporters are charged with causing bodily harm to Herr Andreas Sachse, aged 21, a former supporter who kept notes on the activities of the Action Front.

Meanwhile, *Der Spiegel* reported yesterday that neo-Nazis in West Berlin had set up meeting points in the ruins of the underground bunkers built by Hitler at the end of the war.

Swastikas and antisemitic slogans have been found daubed on the thick concrete walls of the labyrinth of tunnels and shelters under a disused station.

Decisive battle looms for Karen rebels

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The decisive battle in Burma's long campaign against Karen rebels in mountainous areas bordering Thailand appears to be imminent.

Government troops are reported to be dug in within about 300 yards of the outskirts of Maw Pokay, the rebels' main base, after heavy artillery bombardment of the town.

The Karens are suffering heavy casualties in clashes with the better-armed Burmese who also have greatly superior numbers. Some Burmese have been killed and wounded by land mines put down by the Karens on approaches to Maw Pokay, which for years has been a key point in the rebels' economic lifeline as well as a big military base.

The Karens largely finance their rebellion with taxes on cross-border trade conducted from Maw Pokay. Its loss would be a crippling blow to them. However, they do not appear to be proposing to conduct a long defence of the town. Instead they are fighting a hit and run guerrilla operation, making daring raids behind the Burmese lines to attack artillery positions and communications posts.

Some other ethnic minorities also opposed to the Rangoon Government are helping the Karens with men and supplies.

Branches in Bangkok of Anglican, Baptist and Seven Day Adventist churches have launched a campaign to raise money to buy food, medicine, clothing and building materials for more than 10,000 Karen civilian refugees who have fled into Thailand.

Priests seek conciliation

Manila (Reuter) – Three Roman Catholic priests and six church workers accused of murder are willing to hold talks with the Philippine Government for an amicable settlement of their case, one of the priests said yesterday.

"We are willing to open talks with the Government but there are certain things that are not negotiable." Father Brian Gore, an Australian said. "The least they can do is withdraw the case against us."

Father Gore was speaking by telephone from Bacolod provincial jail where he, Father Niall O'Brien, an Irishman, and Father Vincente Dangan, a Filipino, and the church workers, are being held.

The have pleaded not guilty to charges of killing Mayor Pablo Sola and four other men in Kabangkalan in 1982.

Brazilian military chiefs alarmed at growing clamour for direct vote

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

As pressures for the next President to be chosen by direct, rather than indirect elections grows in intensity, whipped up by an opposition scenting power, worried Brazilian military chiefs of staff are pressing President João Figueiredo to bring the succession issue back under control before it is too late.

The military chiefs are acutely concerned that events in Brazil could follow those of Argentina, with an increasingly unpopular military being chased from power, and consequently being held responsible for mistakes made during the 20 years they have been running the country.

Many opposition politicians exploiting growing divisions in the Government and the increasing weakness of the President, are attempting to draw parallels with Argentina which do not really exist. The Brazilian military have very litte blood on their hands. However, they are very vulnerable to accusations of having enriched themselves in positions of power over the past few years. And they and the technocrats they appointed to run the economy, are certainly unpopular. Last week, President Figueiredo summoned the four candidates of the official PDS party to Brasilia, and told them to play the game by the existing rules, and not press for direct elections.

Two who stand to win under a system whereby Members of Parliament, and state representatives make the choice next January, were happy to acquiesce. But the other two, including Vice-Resident Aureliano Chaves, have now joined the growing opposition chorus in favour of a direct election later this year. They have concluded that their only chance of winning is to appeal to a wider electorate.

The Government is concerned that a direct election would almost certainly mean that a radical politician, such as Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, from the left of the PMDB or even worse, Leonel Brizola, Governor of Rio de Janeiro state, would win the contest.

The opposition has been organizing demonstrations in favour of direct elections, and more than a quarter of a million attended one in São Paulo at the end of last month, leading the Government to conclude gloomily that the left has now gained control of the streets.

Three hundred thousand people attended the latest demonstration in Belo Horizonte last week. This was by far the largest so far, and was particularly significant because Belo Horizonte, capital of the key state of Minas Gerias, the political heart of Brazil, is only a third of the size of São Paulo.

A Bill to amend the constitution and permit the next elections to be direct has been placed before Congress, and is due to be voted on early in April. With the recent conversion of Aureliano Chaves to the idea of direct elections, the Government is concerned that there might now be a two-thirds majority in favour, at least in the Lower House. But a procedure might be found to postpone or even avert the vote.

It is not true to claim, as the opposition does, that public opinion is massively in favour of direct elections. But most Brazilians now want more radical change than that most proposed by the Government, which would like the Interior Minister, Senhor Mario Andreazza, to win.

He is a close associate of the President and his success would mean that present policies are continued for at least four more years.

As a sop to the growing pressure, the subsequent presidential election, in the late 1980s, will certainly be made direct, and the next presidential term will probably be two years shorter than the present six years. But these reforms may prove to be too little, too late.



Fresh start: Señor Caputo (centre) and members of his delegation at the Palais des Nations in Geneva yesterday.

End of Argentina's long night

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

"The night in Argentina is over", Señor Dante Caputo, the Argentine Foreign Minister, told the 43-nation UN Human Rights Commission yesterday.

During that long night, terror had spread among the people, as political terrorism led, in turn, to the military Government unleashing a "terrible repressive action in which every means was permissible. ... By fighting the Devil with the Devil's weapons, Argentina became Hell.

"Thanks to a number of tremendous failures in the most various fields, and to the unopposable push of the political forces of the country", he said – his only implicit reference to the Falklands war – "the military regime was forced to abandon power and our people recovered its sovereignty."

Annulment of "an abhorrent amnesty law passed by the military regime to cover up its own excesses and the crimes of some terrorists" was now enabling the machinery of justice to operate without hindrance.

Señor Caputo said that the new Government would abolish the "draconian sanctions", including the death penalty, introduced by the military junta to curb ideological dissent.

The minister thanked the UN High Commission for Refugees and friendly countries for assisting Argentines who had gone into exile and who could now "return to shape our common destiny".

Soviet block scare at reports of Aids

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

The mysterious killer disease Aids that has struck down hundreds of homosexuals in the West, has hit the Soviet block. Two cases – an African and a Slovak – have been reported in Czechoslovakia and now Poland too has taken fright.

The illness, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, has so far baffled doctors and immunological specialists although certain high risk groups including homosexuals, some exceptionally active heterosexuals, drug addicts using intravenous injection and Haitians have been identified. Originally discovered on a large scale in the United States, it spread to Western Europe and is now moving eastwards.

The Polish Institute of Hygiene has issued a special leaflet setting out the main symptoms of the disease so that doctors can make a speedy diagnosis. Blood donor stations are to take special measures to ensure that donors with Aids do not offer their blood.

The director of the sanitary inspection unit of the health ministry, Dr Jan Sluchowiak, told the newspaper *Zycie Warszawy* yesterday that no Aids cases had been reported in Poland. But other doctors at the Hygiene Institute point out that the level of diagnosis is currently so low – Aids symptoms could often be confused with other ailments – that Aids may already have reached the country but be undetected.

The illness has the effect of lowering the body's defences against other diseases.

The state of Polish hospitals – deprived for years of adequate investment for drugs, equipment and buildings – is such that the danger of cross infection is already high. Cramped conditions, poorly sterilized syringes and other factors mean that patients sometimes enter hospital with one illness and leave with another. A mysterious disease like Aids is therefore a real peril.

There are no official estimates of the number of homosexuals in Poland but there is certainly a large community in Warsaw, meeting in two or three main cafes. Unlike the Soviet Union, homosexuality is not against the law in Poland.

French left loses another bastion

From Diana Geddes Paris

The rout of the French left in local by-elections continues and M Mitterrand's popularity remains at an all-time low for any President under the Fifth Republic. Another important left-wing bastion, Draguignan in the Var, fell to the right on Sunday, after 18 years of uninterrupted rule by the Socialist Senator-Mayor, M Edourd Soldani.

The apparent attempt on M Soldani's life last Tuesday, when he was shot and seriously wounded in the shoulder by two unidentified men, was not enough to bring him the few hundred extra votes needed to retain the town hall. He lost by 316 votes to the Gaullist RPR candidate, M Jean-Paul Claustres, in a high turnout of more than 38 per cent of the 18,000 electorate.

M Soldani, who is 73 and has used a pacemaker for a number of years, issued an emotional appeal from his hospital bed, which was telephoned through to potential voters, saying: "They tried to kill me, you know ... on Sunday, the fate of Draguignan is at stake. Do not fail in your duty."

Another municipal by-election in the Mediterrean port of La Seyne-sur-Mer, also in the Var, ended in confusion on Sunday, after apparent irregularities were discovered at one of the polling booths.

But for that it looks as if the right would again have wrested control of the town hall from the ruling Communist-Socialist alliance.

Rapier deal

Ankara–Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Defence Procurements began talks here aimed at finalizing the deal, signed last July, for Turkey's acquisition from Britain of 36 Rapier anti-aircraft missiles costing roughly £200m.

Kenyans embarrassed by unused power plant

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

A big industrial plant to manufacture power and potable alcohol and a range of chemical products from molasses, a by-product of Kenya's sugar industry, has now been standing idle at Kisumu, on the shores of Lake Victoria, for the past two years.

The plant, with its storage tanks and processing towers dominating the skyline on the outskirts of Kisumu, has cost £60m so far. But development of its final stages stopped when the Kenya Government, the majority shareholder, decided it could not increase its investment any further to provide the estimated £15m needed to complete the project.

Valuable machinery, including large standby generators to provide electricity and a sophisticated installation to purify water from Lake Victoria, has therefore been lying idle and unused. In the absence of costly and sophisticated maintenance, much of the machinery is likely to have deteriorated.

The project has been criticized here as too costly and too sophisticated. Another alcohol plant in western Kenya, built at a much lower cost, is already in operation

The Kisumu plant was launched in 1977 with the Kenya Government holding 51 per cent of the shares, and the Madhvani group of companies, part of the industrial empire built up by an Asian family expelled from Uganda by Idi Amin in 1972, heading an international consortium to subscribe the remaining shares.

Production costs have far exceeded the original estimates. A costly water treatment plant had to be added when the Kisumu municipal authorities could not provide a water supply, and there were difficulties in installing mains electricity.

The plant is an embarrassment to everyone involved, but there appear to be no plans either to complete it or to dismantle it.

Afghanistan: Hassan Kakar



Prisoners of conscience

By Caroline Moorehead

Hassan Kakar, head of the department of history at Kabul University and author of many publications on Afghan history, is serving an eight-year prison sentence for counter-revolutionary offences and for "forming an unlawful association".

Professor Kakar, who received his post-graduate education at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, was one of eight unversity teachers to be arrested by the Afghan security police, the Khad, on March 21, 1982. His trial was held in camera in May, 1983.

The arrests came after staff and students had expressed concern about the growing number of Russian teachers on the campus, and about earlier widespread arrests of students.

There had also apparently been pressure on the teachers to join the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the PDPA.

Professor Kakar was denied access to a lawyer both during his detention and later at his trial. No family visits were permitted until the trial was over. He is known, however, to have denied all charges made against him.

Father Francis Xavier Zhu Shude, S. J., subject of the prisoner of conscience column on October 4, 1983, has died in a labour camp in Anhui province, Central China. He was 70.



Professor Kakar: Denied access to lawyer.

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Yet despite the continuing success of the Cavalier, we're continuing to build on its lead.

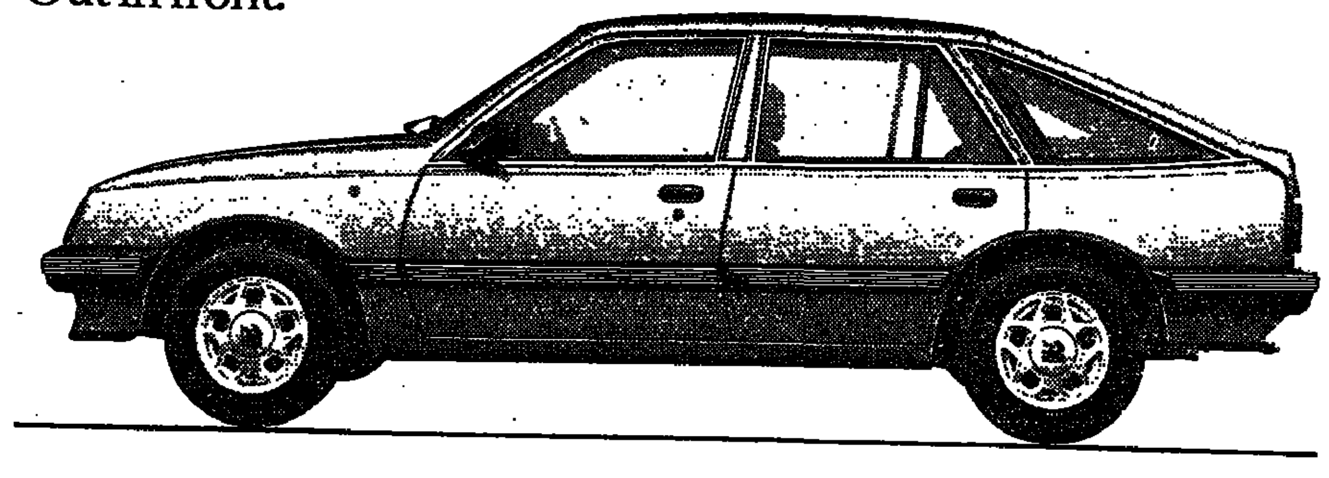
There are now 23 models in all. The range, including booted-saloons and hatchbacks, has just been further extended with the new estate.

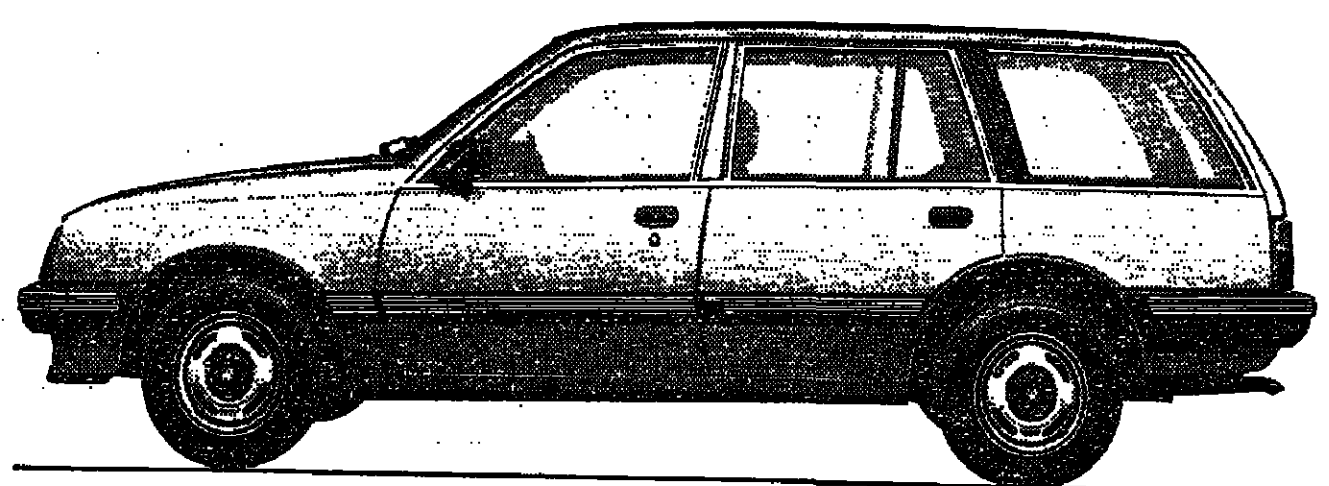
Under the bonnet you can choose from a 1.3, a 1.6 or 1.6 diesel. Whilst at the top end there's 1.8 litres of fuel-injection.

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QUOTE FROM DRIVE AND TRAIL MAGAZINE MAY 1983. THE CAVALIER RANGE FROM £5,238. PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, INCLUDES CAR TAX AND VAT. DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES ARE EXTRA. DOT FUEL CONSUMPTION TESTS MPG (LITRES/100KM) FOR SRi HATCH AND SALOON (5-SPEED MANUAL): URBAN CYCLE: 25.7 (11.0), CONSTANT 56 MPH: 48.7 (5.8), CONSTANT 75 MPH: 36.7 (7.7).

SPECTRUM

Juggling acts of the Olympic circus



The problem of defining who is eligible to compete in the Olympic Games and who is not has its roots in the difference between the world's two competing political systems: if the state-supported athletes of the communist countries are permitted to take part, how can the free-enterprise professionals of the capitalist West be denied? Slowly, rules are being amended to fit changing attitudes. In the build-up to this summer's Los Angeles Games, football is coming under particularly close scrutiny: the sport's international authority, empowered by Rule 26 of the Olympic Charter to write its own eligibility conditions, has devised a set so elastic that players already part-way to becoming millionaires will be allowed to participate. At Seoul in 1988, tennis will join the list of Olympic sports, and players from the professional circuit will be eligible to play for medals.

Why not, when runners and skiers are banking huge sums while preserving the fig-leaf of amateur status?

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), is expected next month to confirm with Joao Havelange, President of FIFA, the international football federation, that the existing eligibility code for the qualifying tournament in football will not be changed for this summer's games in Los Angeles, despite widespread misgivings. The decision will be the most instrumental yet in pushing the Olympics into open professionalism.

The same special category of "Olympic player", with the addition of an age limit, will be used in 1988. Currently, West Germany's centre-forward, for example, is Schatzschneider of Hamburg, who succeeded Hrubesch, the 1982 centre-forward in the World Cup. Almost all the members of west Germany's Olympic team are professionals in the Bundesliga, the only FIFA criterion being that they must not have played in the previous World Cup.

Germany meet France in decisive qualifying matches for Los Angeles in March and April. Both countries have stated that were professionals now to be barred from the finals, they would withdraw. "We would not send a substitute team if the rules were changed", says Wilfred Gerhardt, secretary of the West German Football Association. "We are in favour of equal chances. It does not make sense for the top Soviet team to be playing the number five team from Germany."

Samaranch is a negotiator, not an idealogue. He is likely to have succeeded in persuading the Soviet Union to turn up in Los Angeles; he has China back in the fold alongside Taiwan; he must next persuade the Soviets to go in 1988 to Seoul, in South Korea, where no Soviet team has yet competed. "His aim for the IOC to dominate the world of sport is quite clear," says Peter Tallberg, Finland's IOC member and the chairman of the Athletes Commission.

Samaranch believes, not without reason, that the major problem of the Olympics is less the distinction between amateurism and professionalism than that between communism and capitalism. "We understand and must include both political systems," he says. If the Olympics were not to be become exclusively the platform of the totalitarian states, there had to be concessions to the capitalist West. If, clearly, the old ethical ideology of Thomas Arnold and Baron de Coubertin was effectively dead for any athletes with aspirations of a medal; then to give the capitalist world "an equal chance", as Samaranch calls it, the ideology had to be stretched: if you cannot eliminate professional abuse, expediently alter the rules to include it.

Yet the achievement of equality between the political systems of East and West is hardly compatible with traditional Olympic ideology. If Samarach and Willi Daume of West Germany, chairman of the Olympic Eligibility Commission, permit professionals to continue to play, the last protence of an amateur games will have perished. It has already been compromised by the inclusion of contract professionals in ice hockey the recent Winter Games at Sarajevo.

Visiting Los Angeles shortly before the Winter Games, I suggested to Peter Ueberroth, president of the LA Organizing committee, that Samaranch is treading a difficult path. "Not at all", Ueberroth contradicted briskly. "Samaranch is on a path as wide as Fifth Avenue".

Events in Sarajevo seem to confirm that Samaranch, a shrewd politician who was Spain's post-Franco ambassador in Moscow, is intent on making the IOC the most influential body in the entire world of sport, amateur or professional. Hence his diplomatic refusal to be pinned down on the philosophical distinction between separate sports which, for example, excludes from Sarajevo the quasi-professional Swedish skier Ingmar Stenmark yet accepts for Los Angeles the even-more professional athletes; hence his ambivalence on how the games can include, within the rules, the millionaire tennis teenager Mats Wilander.

The IOC neatly stepped out of the heat of the eligibility issue by allowing each individual sport to negotiate its own definition of the relevant rule with the Eligibility Commission. Thus Carl Lewis, Sebastian Coe and the rest are allowed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) to launder their substantial income from advertisements and authorized professional meetings through their national federations. The top Austrian and Swiss skiers are able to earn £150,000 a year as ersatz instructors, though they may not advertise equipment and stay in the Olympics, as Stenmark discovered. But this is necessary, explains Mark Hodler, the international skiing president, to prevent the ski industry taking over international competition as have the cycling and motor-racing manufacturers. Another compromise.

Samaranch is a political juggler with half a dozen plates in the air. The Soviet block allowed Primo Nebiolo, president of IAAF, to push through the athletes' "trust funds", but how far will they accept capitalist professionalism in ice hockey, soccer and tennis? Samaranch, Nebiolo and Havelange are willing to embrace the best possible competitors in the Olympics because of the simple basic equation: professionalism = more [illegible] income (from television and sponsors) = more power.



Ingram Pinn

The IOC will not, I think, ultimately argue with FIFA's version of eligibility, simply because in Moscow soccer was its biggest single money-earning sport.

Thomas Kessler of Zurich is president of the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), the body which the recent enquiry into sponsorship chaired by Denis Howell suggests should investigate the ICC's and FIFA's links with commercial interests such as Adidas, the powerful West German sports equipment manufacturer. Also president of the international rowing federation, Keller is an administrator who has always tried to run sport for the benefit of the competitors. Rowing has no professionals, and he is alarmed by the erosion of old standards. He says: "We should abolish the Olympics to protect sport. The influence of television and the mass media is the problem. Individual world championships are better away from mass sports. Howell is correct, huge amounts of money are changing hands without anyone knowing. But an individual sport cannot afford to jeopardize its Olympic position. Look what television has done for showjumping and tennis. Instead of breaking the commercial influence, administrators are now promoting it.

"The greatest danger, of course, is [illegible] volunteers, without whom sport cannot exist as it has. How can they remain satified when so many people are taking money? Britain invented many of the modern sports, but the modest attitude of British officials has been swept away by those with personal ambitions. The educational values of sport are the most important for society."

Meanwhile the commercial interests nimbly negotiate their way to profit through the sea of official inertia. They even receive official encouragement: the IOC has recently invited ISL, a Swiss company whose shareholders include Adidas and Mark McCormack's International Management Group organization, to set up an agency for the exclusive worldwide commercial exploitation of the Olympic rings and logo. It will be worth billions, to be shared between the IOC, the national Olympic committees and the agencies.

How much the redefinition of the Olympic eligbility code is for the benefit of the athlete and how much to preserve the IOC's pre-eminence is difficult to judge. Samaranch says suavely: "It was a very wise decision by the IAAF in 1982 to include the commercially advantaged western athletes alongside the Soviets. There must be the same opportunity." The use of "same opportunity" is subtle, exploiting a political breach of the Olympic [illegible]

The basic premise, which is not without its logic, is to be found in the 1983 address by Daume to the athletes commission. The new ideology goes like this:

"If the contemporary athlete necessarily needs 1,600 hours a year training, then the Olympic Movement, which expects athletes to pursue excellence, should not discriminate against *or* exploit the full-time athlete because of that excellence. Why should athletes voluntarily put themselves at the service of an ideology which makes a virtue of sacrifice and poverty? We have an obligation to assist the contemporary athlete. But we have no intention of allowing anyone to participate in the Olympic Games who pursues sport for profit."

Herr Daume is a sincere old man who has given a life's allegiance to the Olympic movement, and he believes the redefinition is justified. Yet everything depends on interpretation of that last sentence, which could be said to exclude at least 20 per cent of those who will be in Los Angeles.

Daume admits he is concerned about the admission of tennis, in which professionals exist from top to bottom of the ranking list. Here, too, Samaranch advocates compromise – an age limit, similar to that proposed by Havelange in soccer for 1988, and a cut-off point in the ranking list, thereby excluding upper-level players. "We must exclude professionals not controlled by their national federations, such as Navratilova and Connors," he says.

What about, in that case, Bryan Robson of Manchester United, whom you might say was controlled by his national federation? Britain withdrew from Olympic soccer when the amateur distinction was abolished in the UK, yet can it be said that Robson or Shilton or any of the Swiss skiers earning £150,000 a year are playing their sport any less ethically than, say ex-mile record holder Derek Ibbotson in the 1950s or Cram in the 1980s?

Sepp Blatter, secretary of FIFA, suggests that as long as commerce "does not influence the spirit, form, place and result, we cannot prevent its development." Aha! If only we could take that literally, *there* is the real issue. The old ideology was not so much a matter of the privileged middle class being financially free of material need, but of the *way* they played. If everybody in the Olympics was sporting, it would matter less what they were paid.

What we need is not a financial but a sporting definition: where umpires are obeyed, losers honoured, cheats (such as drug users) banned. Keller asks: "What is the Olympic philosophy? Perhaps Coubertin was clever, leaving to each country to decide for its own purposes. In the socialist world it means anything and everything."

If Samaranch is really shrewd, he will recognize that it is more important for the Olympics to preserve old-fashioned fair play than any financial distinctions. If he could do that, the tennis players and the footballers would be welcome.

David Miller

TOMORROW

Athletes and the use [illegible]

moreover... Miles Kington

Do not turn to this column for a list of the best novels of all time. Turn here instead for a list of the worst-selling books. Based on returns from rare bookshops and junk book stalls, these lists contain the slowest-moving volumes of the last ten years: a service provided by *no* other newspaper.

Twentieth Century Hardbacks

Setting Up You Own Leper Colony in Central Africa, by Doctors Jean Richard and Pierre Dugrivois, also Nurse Lempriere, 1929, Medical Press.

The H G Wells I Knew, by Councillor Leonard Simpkins, 1947, Northern Books. Not, apparently, the H G Wells the rest of us know about but a prewar mayor of Skipton, Yorkshire.

Clans Without Tartan, 4 vols, by Major-General Urquhart, late the Queen's Own Wardrobe, 1901. A compendious study of clans which died out before the invention of tartans, or refused to have tartans, or were too near the English border to be bothered. There are several line drawings of decorative bow-ties.

My Ninety-nine Favourite Symphonies, by Anthony Burgess, 1956, Singapore University Press.

By Pogo Stick to Tibet, by Florry and Bunty Fairchild, 1949.

Collected Poems, by One Who Should Have Known Better. Published anonymously in 1912.

Carta Stradale dell' Olympiade 1936. A street plan published in Italian to guide competitors through Berlin. Detailed diagrams of high jump pit, marathon escape route etc.

Pronunciation Guide to Irish Place Names, by the Irish Place Name Society, 1939. There are appendices on Kilburn, Shepherds Bush and how to pour Guinness properly.

So You Want to Build Your Own Electric Train? by Professor Sidney Wheel, sponsored by Ever Ready Batteries, 1947.

The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Songbook with an introduction by Vaughan Williams. Song No 15, "The Linesman Said In, The Umpire Said Out, So They Went and Asked the Ticket Tout", is missing.

Twentieth Century Paperbacks

100 Things To Do With Lavatory Paper, The Rainy Day Children's Library, 1966.

Ley Lines on The Moon, Mystery Press, 1968, by the author of *Martians Have Landed and Become Freemasons*, *Is God a Traffic Warden?*, etc. etc.

Collecting Pipe-Cleaners: A Beginner's Guide by Claud Sitwell, 1957.

Stamp Out Racism: Make Sunglasses Compulsory, by Mrs Eugenia X Fairbanks, 1971.

Libyan Cooking Made Easy, by the People's Press of Libya.

My 999 Best Book Reviews, by Anthony Burgess, 1980.

Bitte?, 1960. A guide to places where German is commonly spoken in Africa and South America.

Left-over Bits of Soap, Upside-Down Union Jacks etc, an anthology of letters to *The Times*, 1976.

You Dirty Rat, an informal history of the Black Death, 1957.

John and Jane Think Seriously About Voting SDP, 1976.

Pre-1900 Books

A Perambulation of Ealing, Brentford and Hammersmithe, by A Lady, 1866. Kew is missing.

Gunpowder, or, How to Explode the Worlde. The Puritan Protest Press 1678.

The Hundred Greatest Epick Poems That I did Ever Read, by A Burgess, Esq, 1809.

Is God a Balloonist? Anon. 1834.

The Way All Things Fit Together in a Very Neat Pattern, by D. Attenborough, 1857.

Napoleon's War Diaries, now thought to be fraudulent, 1850.

[illegible]



FINDINGS

The key to biology

A series reporting on research

PROTEIN CHEMISTRY



[illegible] cell [illegible] up to [illegible] different types of protein functioning [illegible] enzymes [illegible] (biological catalysts), antibodies (to annihilate intruding organisms), hormone receptors, structural proteins etc. For many years, protein chemists have been trying to explain what it is about protein structure that produces biological control devices capable of such variety, accuracy and fine-tuning. Their findings aim to give a molecular explanation for the way living organisms operate in health and disease. Thus protein chemistry underpins a large area of modern biology – medicine, toxicology, biotechnology, agriculture etc.

Pure form

[illegible] interesting proteins [illegible] very rare (only a few milligrams in several kilograms of tissue); others are available only through hazardous preparation procedures. This is particularly true for proteins from pathogenic bacteria and viruses –



Use of mice can aid vaccine development

proteins that might otherwise have great potential as vaccines against these pathogens.

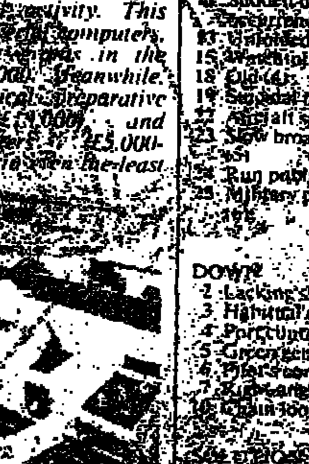
Nowadays, harmless bacteria [illegible] large quantities of foreign proteins [illegible] genetic material. Bacteria [illegible] make human proteins, for example human insulin for diabetics [illegible] alternative to pig insulin. On the vaccine front, viral coat proteins and bacterial constituents, harmless in isolation but with potential as vaccines, can now be made in sufficient quantities for research and development to proceed.

Synthesis

Another idea, christened *protein engineering*, aims at bacterial synthesis of previously unheard-of proteins, those combining desirable features from two distinct proteins eg. catalytic efficiency and stability. [illegible] still in embryo, this [illegible] alleviate a major [illegible] in the industrial [illegible] of protein chemistry [illegible] catalytic efficiency of enzyme [illegible] over nonbiological [illegible] without damaging the [illegible] which [illegible] biological [illegible] depends. However, to make sensible designs for such novel proteins, the principles of protein structure-function links must be fully understood.

Black sheep

For a long time, protein chemistry has been the black sheep of biological research councils, consuming large sums of money with comparatively small commercial returns. In the early days, for example, determining the chemical structure of a single protein needed finance for one "man-year" of research. Far more costly are today's physical studies on the way proteins interact with other macromolecules to form subcellular structures, and on the surface geometry so vital for [illegible] activity. This work needs [illegible] computers [illegible] in the [illegible] Meanwhile, [illegible] preparative [illegible] and [illegible] £5,000 [illegible] the least



The spectrophotometer in [illegible]

ambitious projects of protein chemistry.

But because of this [illegible], the basic principles of protein structure are now [illegible] understood, and [illegible] that the [illegible] present [illegible] protein [illegible] developments are likely to build on a different line of research – understanding how single individual proteins function in the organism as a whole. For instance, many proteins are synthesised in immature form, far from their site of action. For full maturation, they must follow a circuitous route through the cell, guided by address labels and membrane-penetrating devices. By studying these mechanisms, protein chemists hope to fill some of the gaps in our understanding of how cells coordinate their many molecular activities.

Anna J Furth

The author is Lecturer in Biology at the Open University.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No [illegible])

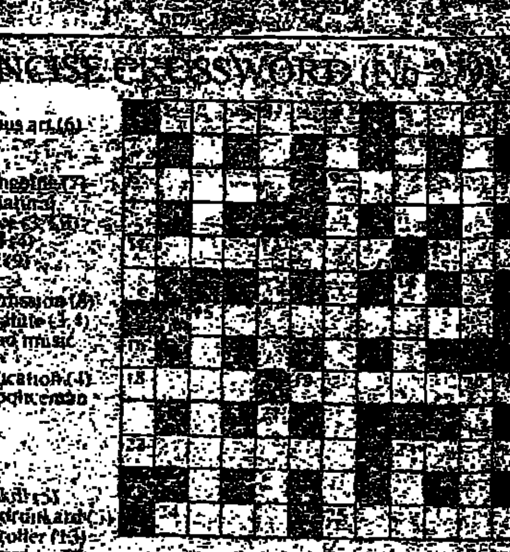
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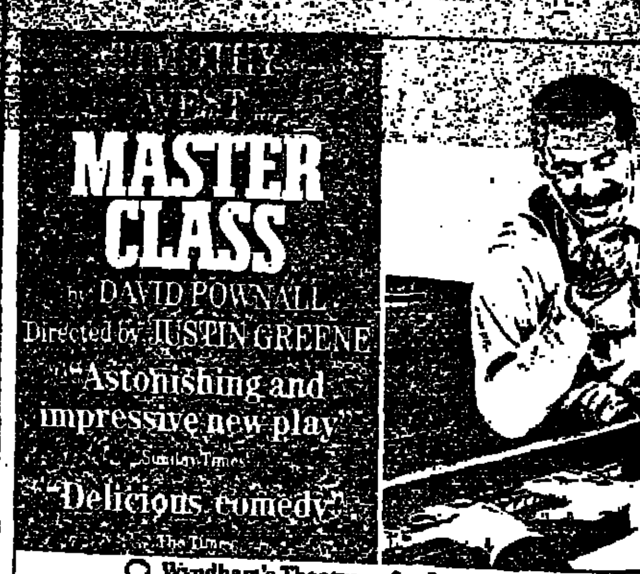
1 Pretentious art (6)

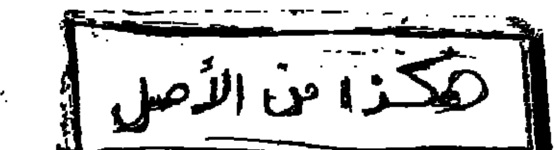
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THE ARTS

Television

The body at war

Conquest of the Parasites (*Horizon*, BBC 2) sounded like a horror film showing at the local Odeon and, in some respects, that was what it was. Worms of more than 15 inches, and with names of a similar length, were pulled out of human bodies like string from a doll: blind mouths, gaping open, rose up in the intestinal tract; they clustered under the skin, forming large and spongy lumps.

The point was made almost at once: this was a programme about those parasites which dwell in the human body and against which there are still no effective remedies. Six hundred million people suffer from hook-worms: these are the ones which hold on to the intestines with their teeth, and live off blood. Malaria, carried by parasites, kills a million people each year. The list of diseases stretches on and on: sleeping sickness, elephantiasis, river blindness.... It seems that there is some chance of vaccines being developed to extirpate these creatures, but the drug companies are not willing to manufacture them: there is more profit to be made out of tranquillizers.

Certainly *Horizon* provides an image of the natural world quite different from that generally offered. The human frame seems to be simply a map of warring kingdoms, in which the prerogative is "kill or be killed". And just as under the electron microscope the body seems to be a vessel of disease and corruption so, on a global scale, the programme showed that the battle to ward off destruction is now being lost in several areas of the world. It may be wrong to conclude that programmes of this kind are reverting to a darker view of the world; but perhaps these pictures of serpents and their thriving spawn, even if they are generated by computers or developed by micro-photography, are more influential than we care to think.

Peter Ackroyd

Rock

Genesis
NEC, Birmingham

When Genesis first came to prominence, some 12 years ago, they were regarded as leaders in the rock-as-theatre movement. The combination of their former vocalist Peter Gabriel's fantastic costumery and the band's lengthy musical allegories gave them an edge that enabled them to overcome the pejorative implications of progressive heavy metal. Now, Genesis are a supergroup capable of packing out stadia the world over. The first night of their stint at the vast National Exhibition Centre complex, which culminates in a charity performance for the Prince of Wales Trust, was ample proof that, despite punk and Culture Club, there is still a demand for this rather reactionary style of music.

Genesis fill their fans with awe, though the theatricals have been replaced by the sophisticated technical gadgetry deemed necessary to stay ahead in the rarefied atmosphere of major league success. The lightshow looked like something out of *Close Encounters* and the music was equally exaggerated, a strident fusion of gothically proportioned heavy rock set to the compulsive beat of two drummers, Phil Collins and the former Frank Zappa sideman Chester Thompson. Collins is also Genesis' singer and principal showman these days, handling his duties with an easy confidence and a good humour.

The band are undoubtedly masters at satisfying the strange urge for epic pomp rock. Sadly, for the uncommitted observer, Genesis are also a painful reminder of just how soulless and pretentious white rock music can be. This was apparent when they closed with a cunningly concocted medley of hits, past and present, a sort of pop charade that veered from the Beatles to Van Halen. The crowd lapped it up for two and a half hours.

Max Bell

Galleries

Melting-pot of beauty and the bizarre

***Whirligig: Uncle Sam Riding a Bicycle*, in carved and polychromed wood and metal by an unknown New England artist between 1850 and 1900 – forerunner of Pop Art?**

American Folk Art
Barbican

Contemporary Tapestries and Sculpture from Romania
Leighton House

Should art be national or international? Should we look for unity and continuity in a national tradition, or be more conscious of diversity? Do we, anyhow, have much choice in the matter? Though these problems affect many countries, to varying degrees, the United States seems to be the most self-conscious about them. After a century or more of glorying in the melting-pot and watching and waiting for some unmistakable new national entity to emerge, the present fashion is to emphasize rather the diversity of the ingredients and look for roots in a multiplicity of alien and, on their home ground, incompatible cultures. Perhaps this shows that the long-desired unity has been achieved and can now be taken for granted, that there is already in existence a distinct American tradition which is more than, or at least different from, the sum of its roots. All the same, a show like American Folk Art, at the Barbican Gallery until April 1, seems like putting the clock back in more ways than one.

Immediately, of course, it is looking backwards two centuries or more: most of the exhibits date from the eighteenth or nineteenth century. This means automatically that the art celebrated precedes the melting-pot era, and represents almost exclusively a coherent WASP culture. (It might, of course, also represent the beginnings of black culture when it was genuinely Afro-American, but virtually the only indication of a black presence is to be found in white comments on slavery.) Naturally, this is a potent American tradition, because for a long time it was the only one. And, judged for themselves, many of the objects are of great beauty, or at least unforgettable bizarreness. Nor were the home-made furniture and weather-vanes and decoy ducks and quilts and signboards and journeyman portraits in any way selfconscious, let alone precious, at the time they were made. And yet today an inescapable atmosphere of preciosity clings to them: visiting the show is like stepping into an Agnes de Mille ballet rather than the real life of times past.

Most unreasonable, but there it is. I suspect it is because we cannot but see these things in part through the eyes of sophisticated twentieth-century revivalists who deliberately tried to make this into the central American tradition rather than recognizing it as one of many. After all, Colonial Williamsburg is not psychologically so far from Disneyland's Main Street, and the existence of both does tend to colour our view of the genuine article when we see it. To make matters worse, the show ends with some dreadfully twee examples of modern folk art, which are supposed to show that the tradition is alive and well.

Far be it from me to impugn the sincerity of Grandma Moses and her peers, but modern so-called naive art is not the same thing at all, and is not produced for the same purposes or shaped by the same pressures. It would be more to the point, and less pretentious (or tendentious), to compare primitive handlings of motifs like the Stars and Stripes with the knowing manipulation of the Pop Artists who, product of the melting-pot indeed, accept and draw strength from the variety on offer today rather than looking here or anywhere else for the one true way.

No doubt Romania is helped in such matters by the closeness of all but the most sophisticated and cosmopolitan Romanians to their present roots. The show of **Contemporary Tapestries and Sculpture from Romania** at Leighton House until March 10 presents us with something like a model of how national traditions can still have an important and enlivening influence on the work of even the youngest and most progressive artists today. It seems to demonstrate that the real artist is affected willy-nilly by the traditions from which he springs, or is not affected at all: the influence need not, of course, be unconscious, but it has to be felt rather than adopted through an intellectual decision.

The small wood sculptures here, mostly by artists in their thirties and forties, show almost inevitably a kinship with Brancusi, and through him go back to the peasant wood-carvers of the famous Maramuresean farm gates and other such manifestations of the true functional folk tradition. But a sculptor like Liviu Rusu, even though the works shown are variations on the gate motif, never seems to be straining to prove anything other than his delight in his material and his fascination with certain shapes. The last thing he is trying to be is folksy.

The tapestries seem to have the same free-and-easy relationship with Romania's artistic past. Lucretia Pacea, for example, can produce direct evocations of folk style like *Girl, tree and bird* without seeming fake-naive, and if she feels like doing something more progressive she clearly does it without agonizing. Anna Tamas-Kelemen is an important stage and fashion designer as well as a weaver, and her large and colourful compositions indicate these other affiliations without requiring her to cut off all connexion with the past. Clearly there is here at work a real living tradition, which can continue to extend itself and develop without compromising either itself or those who still work happily within it.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

Alfred Brendel
Festival Hall

What Brendel does for Schubert can be said in four words: he takes him seriously. Not for him the amiable ramblings of heavenly length, the sound beautiful that caresses the ear or the harmonic twist that causes a momentary frisson. No, there are issues of life and death expounded here, and the quest for serenity is in deadly, painful earnest. Quite how he manages to communicate so directly across the vast spaces of a packed Festival Hall I cannot tell, but by the high point of his recital (which as so often with Brendel came immediately after the interval) he began the B flat major Sonata, D 960, with icily gentle, despairingly smiling sounds which cut their way right across the hall.

There was a single chord – achingly dissonant, not over-emphasized, just perfectly in scale – in that movement's coda, which concentrated the experience into one moment; just where with so many other pianists' intensity is failing, Brendel manages to focus suddenly a crushing weight of emotion.

Extraordinary how Brendel can now cultivate that spiky staccato touch in the treble without it seeming, as it has in the past, brusque or acid: my only regret was that on this piano in this acoustic the bass sounded too rich and fuzzy: this Sonata cries out for a piano in which the bass is balanced with the same clarity and can sing with the same openness as the treble.

After Schubert's String Quintet on Saturday night, it was a revelation to hear Brendel lay out the slow movement of this Sonata, so similar to the Quintet in its hypnotic poise, with perfect balance and shapeliness, the upper notes brushed into place, the harmonies firmly pointed. In the finale, something seemed to slip: a brief stumble, perhaps caused by a nastily mistuned note, revealed itself in the upper register and an anxiousness and stridency came into the playing. But, if he was suddenly disturbed by the piano, he quickly made his peace and ours in a generous sequence of encores where time and again he touched the raw nerve beneath the beauty.

Nicholas Kenyon

Jones/Parsons
Covent Garden

The performers and composers whose names glow from the advertisements for Covent Garden's series of Celebrity Concerts certainly seem tempting enough. In practice, though, the series is becoming something of a trial.

The trouble is that, in both conception and name, it encourages "celebrities" to perform repertoire in which they may or may not be most at ease; and, what is more, in an environment which focuses attention, over-reverently and unhelpfully, on the singer rather than the song.

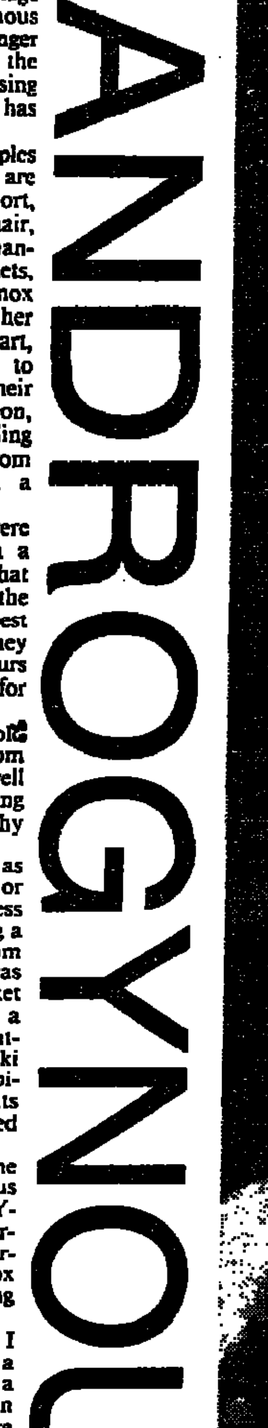
Occasionally, of course, that attention is repaid by artistry rare enough to readjust and integrate the focus. More often, though, the listener is driven either to analyze the accompanist's art or to crane the ear for the fleeting reminiscence or the elusive insight.

On Sunday night there was enough to admire in the astute and wonderfully discreet playing of Geoffrey Parsons: in his voicing of Mahler's "Liebst du um Schönheit", for instance, or in his delightful postlude to Strauss's "Meinem Kinde". There were moments, too, in Gwyneth Jones's performance that reached the ear pleasantly enough: the youthful vocal core delighting in the movement of light and water in Schubert's "Auf dem See" or "Auf dem Wasser", the warm expressive intent of Brahms's "Waldeseinsamkeit".

But there was more of Schubert and Mahler, there was Brahms and a cross-section of Richard Strauss: and there was a voice which had to be constantly pushed up what felt like an ever steeper incline. Whatever the intent, late landings, consistently sagging support, attenuated legato and a mezzoforte tempered only by hard-driven climaxes soon numbed the listener and celebrated neither the song nor the singer.

Hilary Finch

FASHION by Suzy Menkes



ANDROGYNOUS ANNIE



Annie Lennox: "Ambivalent sexuality." Photograph: ORDE ELIASON.

Annie Lennox is the image maker of the androgynous eighties. She is the lead singer with Eurythmics and the strange, strong, gender-crossing look of their pop posters has been taken up as street style.

The androgynous couples who stroll the streets are uncannily alike: the same short, sharp statement with hair, identikit tapered pants, mannish overcoats, drape jackets, bulky sweaters. Annie Lennox is not currently quite alike her musical partner Dave Stewart, for they change images to express themselves and their music. Annie is a chameleon, like that other gender-bending singer Boy George, with whom she has just featured on a *Newsweek* cover story.

Last week Eurythmics were in Paris, half way through a punishing European tour that has been successful beyond the "Sweet Dreams" of their best known record. Yesterday they flew to Los Angeles for 24 hours to collect a Grammy award for "Sweet Dreams".

In London, the 29-year-old Scottish born singer works from a converted church in Muswell Hill – a suitably gothic setting for recording her raunchy singing style.

"I never see myself as someone who starts a fashion or style. I am just trying to express myself in my clothes, creating a look from quite random elements", says Annie, who was wearing a black and white jacket (bought in a man's shop), a man's white shirt with decorative gold pin, black stirrup ski pants with what looked suspiciously like men's underpants underneath as she gyrated round the recording studio.

New York is already in the fashion grip of androgynous style, with Calvin Klein's Y-fronts for women the commercial expression of a new gender-crossing mood. Annie Lennox admits that there is something ambivalent about her style.

"I recognize in myself that I am a woman, both as a performer on stage and as a representative of my generation of women," she says. "But there is this double-edged thing about sexuality. Like most women today I am taking control of my own life and you can see my clothes as an expression of that. But really I like to wear trousers because they give freedom of movement. I don't feel comfortable in dresses."

Most of her clothes are designed by Jeff Banks who has helped to produce the different elements that do not impose an identity but have created a style. This can be a simple suit that has the right kind of silhouette on stage, a threatening combination of PVC bodice welded to a simple T-shirt or the much copied fake leopard hat.

"I have a very good relationship with Jeff, great compatibility", says Annie. "We think of something together and he is very inventive. With me, the style is something organic that grows. The trouble with the record industry is that everybody has a team of bloody stylists and the first thing that people ask is 'who does your hair?'"

For the record (factual and musical), Annie's flaming carrot hair is cut by the Eurythmics base player's girl friend Julie. Annie makes a point of this pronouncement because "I don't like the idea of a pop image as something impersonal and calculated, an image dreamed up by a manager who tells you how to look." (This is an oblique reference to pop promoter Malcolm McClaren and the not-so-spontaneous birth of punk fashion.)

The androgynous image of Annie Lennox was born in a random fashion. "I started buying cheap off-the-peg men's suits because I was so sick of the rasta locks and second-hand clothes of street style", she explains. "I wanted something sharp and clean."

The current image-making pictures put out by RCA records are rather different. They feature a bellicose Annie towering over a recumbent Dave. She is in a very short black skirt, laced with black leather bullet belt.

It is all a far cry from the flute student of 17 who arrived in London from Aberdeen at the Royal Academy of Music. Her Scottish childhood, her memories of her aunt's croft, of her family ("they are old-fashioned people") has been absorbed into her songs. Their current single "Here Comes the Rain" features a video in the Orkneys.

"But that is just a nod of acknowledgment to something that is very dear to me, even though it is buried in the past", she says. "Being Scottish for me is very personal, but I feel at the same time an international sort of person."

The six week-long Eurythmics European tour is taking them through Germany, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland and Scandinavia. There Annie has been acclaimed not for her clothes or for her fiery temper (which goes with the red hair) but for her voice and their music. "Other people want to be pop stars, but the important thing is to be a musician," she says.

The pop video is now such an important part of the music business, that the image is increasingly important.

"That's the beauty of this word 'image'," says Annie with the same energy and enthusiasm that uplifts her singing. "It's so fantastic to be able to change and to find different ways of expressing ourselves through visual imagery. I love the idea of using oneself to portray different emotions and situations. I am so glad that I am not a flute teacher as I originally intended."















ANDROGYNOUS STREET STYLE

King's Road, in Chelsea is today as much the barometer of street fashion as 20 years ago. 1984 street style is a hard-edged and self-confident front for a generation facing an uncertain future.

Girls and guys who are mirror images of each other, and of the army of other trendy Saturday shoppers, slowly walk the length of London's famous peacock parade wearing identical clothes.

This androgynous look is much stronger than the unisex-dressing of the 1960s. The clothes are man-sized, but worn without the sex appeal. Big shirts under loose fitting coats, wide-legged trousers and heavy leather boots are the important parts of the asexual uniform.

Vivienne Westwood, the leader of the androgynous pack, produces a genderless collection each season. Young designers today all make no-sex ranges with all shapes in all sizes.

On top, hair is razor cut and often bleached albino blonde (a style borrowed from the skinhead girls who cull their male counterparts' clothes and tattoos to become an accepted part of an aggressive cult group). If it is long, hair is gelled back or tucked under a military cap.

Girls have not abandoned their make-up; rather it is used to emphasize facial focal points – the eyes and lips. The colours are vibrant oranges and pinks and nails are painted talons. Men too, have taken up the cosmetic brush to accentuate a sunken-cheekbone effect. A smudgy kohl line is run under the lower lid and sometimes a dark matt blusher shapes the face.

Cross-dressing forms a bond between the sexes, but does not transcend the generation gap. It is part of the youth culture and is not a fashion for all ages. Executive women who wear men's pants suits and flat shoes may find male colleagues misinterpreting the image.

We are constantly experiencing the breaking-down of traditional barriers between the sexes and can perceive the changing mental attitudes reflected in street fashion.

Christine Painell

Photographs by RUSSELL MALKIN

Bits and pieces in the raw





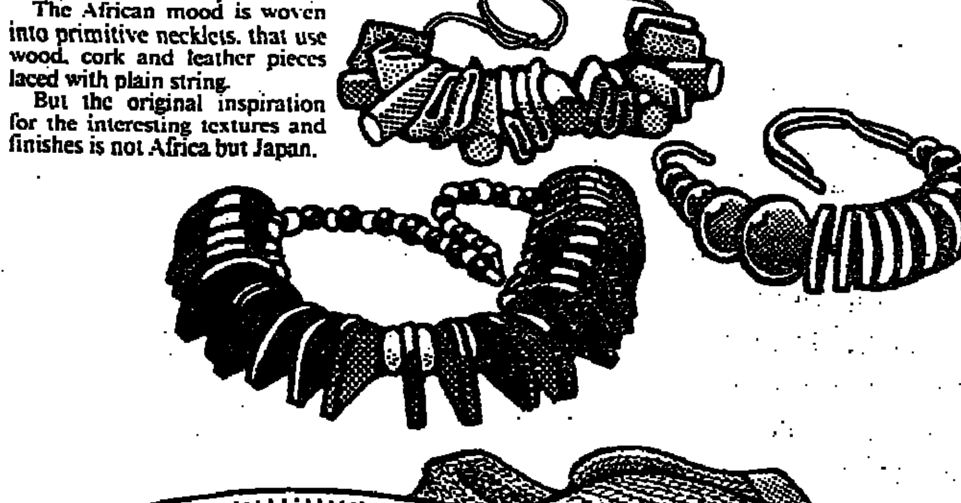
Tough, primitive, native – that is the new feel for accessories this spring. There is a raw edge to the fabrics used to make up the bits and pieces that are crucial to changing fashions.

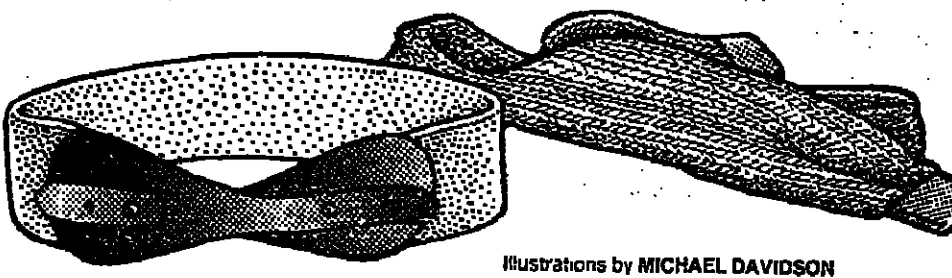
Cork, hessian and leather worked like tree bark are just some of the looks which give shoes a new feel. Leather is plaited, thonged or worked in a basket mesh to give surface interest to the upper of a simple shoe shape.

Belts too have the rough textures that go with the safari clothes. Knitted cotton, hessian and canvas are all worked with leather. Earth brown is the colour of the season, used with paler camel or citrus yellow.

The African mood is woven into primitive necklets, that use wood, cork and leather pieces laced with plain string.

But the original inspiration for the interesting textures and finishes is not Africa but Japan.





SHOES
Left to right: safari beige open toe shoe with basket work leather decoration. By Charles Jourdan, £79.50 from 39-43 Brompton Road, London SW3. Greige and black leather shoe with thonged leather work, £49.99 from Russell and Bromley, 24-25 New Bond Street and branches. Cork-on-leather sling-back with stacked heel £61.50, from Xavier Danaud, St Christopher's Place W1. Herring-bone patterned leather pump in red, khaki, beige, white, black, £58.50 from Xavier Danaud St Christopher's Place W1.

NECKLETS
Front: tiger's teeth bone necklet £19.95 from Fenwick of Bond Street. Centre back: lemon and curry wooden bead and brown suede necklet by Slim Barrat, £22.75 from Contraband, Gees Court, W1. Right: Cork, wood and string necklet by Corocraft, £3.95 from Dickins and Jones, Selfridges and Bentalls of Kingston.

BELTS
Left: hessian belt with earth brown leather trim. By Otto Lanz £9.95 from Fenwick and Selfridges, W1. Right: khaki cotton knit safari belt. By Mulberry £18.95 from Fenwick of Bond Street.

Illustrations by MICHAEL DAVIDSON

■ Last week the V and A displayed its dress collection in book form and Kensington Palace previewed its collection of Court Dress which opens to the public in May.

The two displays are quite different: the elaborately braided jackets, the sweeping court trains and traditional ostrich plumes are to be exhibited in the refurbished Victorian rooms at Kensington Palace in authentic detail. Realism is the aim of the curator Nigel Arch.

Figures are frozen against a frieze of Victorian wallpaper, patterned Edwardian carpet especially rewoven, or among the mahogany tables and formal escritoires of their period.

The public will have its chance in three months' time to compare this realistic display of costumes to the V and A's purist approach.

In the book (Four Hundred Years of FASHION, edited by Natalie Rothstein, Collins hardback £9.95, paperback £5.95), the ghostly mannequins against neutral backgrounds show the costumes off superbly. A lucid text by Madeline Ginsburg (before 1900), Valerie Mendes (after 1900), and Avril Hart (men) fills the gaps left by the beige backcloth of the costume court.

There are gaps, too, in the collection itself: the authors cite the poor showing of Pierre Cardin, and the lack of early examples of outdoor dress. This is inevitable in a random Museum collection.

The book is interesting in its own right. It is also a useful guide to the chronology of a collection that I think the general public must find difficult to follow.

FASHFLASH

■ Selfridges is 75 years young, and they are celebrating by investing in the future. Last week, chairman Leonard Sainer announced the sponsorship of a Fashion Scholarship at the Royal College of Art, the spawning ground of some of Britain's brightest design talents.

This investment in fashion design – the scholarship is worth £4,500 a year – is a sign that retailers recognize the importance of style. But that must be allied to quality, price, make and reliability, according to Mr Sainer.

"The Royal College of Art is in a strong position to take the most promising students", he said, "and to give them two more years of intensive study, with the emphasis firmly on quality, so that they become not just good but excellent designers, skilled in each and every component part of their trade."

The Selfridges Anniversary Scholarship for Fashion Design will be awarded to a full-time student of fashion graduating in June 1984 at a recognised college.





THE TIMES DIARY

Cubism, in 3-D?

Pablo Picasso's love life is about to be rekindled, although, of course, the fiery painter died more than a decade ago. Françoise Gillot, the woman he lived with from 1944 to 1954 and who bore him two children, has at last succumbed to the lucrative temptation to sell the film rights of her book, *My Life with Picasso*. Twenty years ago, when the book first appeared, Picasso sought to bar publication of the more intimate and critical passages, but French law did not support him. Since then film tycoons the world over have tried to persuade Mme Gillot – who is now married to Dr Jonas Salk, of polio vaccine fame – of the potential of Picasso's life story. What she held out for was control over who would play her and Picasso in any film, and now she has found two rich men willing to do it her way, and possibly make her associate producer. They are both Canadian – Tom Patterson, organizer of the Toronto drama festival, and Chris Yaneff, an art gallery owner. They want to break into the movie business, and are clearly determined to do it with a bang.

● **I don't know quite who the BBC Singers expect to apply for a job as a soprano, but they did say in the advertisement in *The Listener*, "We are an Equal Opportunities employer."**

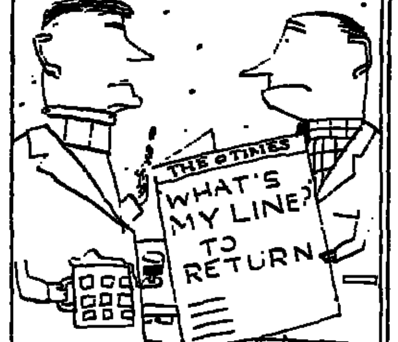
By Joves

Television presenters are used to being accused of all sorts of outlandish things, but Magnus Magnusson, the stony-faced inquisitor of *Mastermind*, was completely thrown by a charge of blasphemy from an irate viewer. How dare he, the letter fumed, suggest that Jesus's first name was Reginald? After careful and repeated viewing of the *Mastermind* tapes, Magnusson finally discovered what had happened. He had reminded a contestant specializing in the works of P. G. Wodehouse that "Jeeves's first name was Reginald".

Moore's almanac

Astronomer Patrick Moore, man of the mercury tongue, is about to lash out again at small-time bureaucracy. He is asking for stories of blunders by local authorities to fill a book (no doubt at top speed – he claims to type at 90 words a minute) called *The Twitmarsh Files: or The Barmy Army*. In it will be the tale of the West Country council that built a nuclear fall-out shelter for 150 people with only one chemical lavatory. The book, written on his vintage 1908 and 1882 typewriters, will be the second flaying of local government. His first was *Bureaucrats: How to Annoy Them* under the pseudonym R. T. Fisball.

BARRY FANTONI



"Do you think they'll find enough people with a job?"

Soccer sweepers

Growing roses might seem like a gentle, relaxing occupation, but for the gardeners of Witton Lane, alongside the Aston Villa football ground in Birmingham, it can be energetic and even hazardous. When Villa are at home, the rose-growers of Witton Lane stand by their garden gates armed with buckets and spades waiting for the final whistle. Their targets are the crowd-controlling mounted policemen – or rather the gifts that their horses leave behind. Once the cavalry has passed, the gardeners have only minutes to rush out into the road and collect the valuable fertilizer before it and they are flattened by thousands of feet and hundreds of car tyres. Better men than you or I, as Kipling said.

● **We have been told for years that religious observance is in decline, but things may be much worse than anyone imagined. The latest Thomson local directory in Torbay, Devon, lists under places of worship the dole offices and the Inland Revenue.**

Cash and harry

The United States may have been the birthplace of the consumer movement, but we Brits can still teach the Americans a thing or two. A publication by our own National Consumer Council, *How to run a consumer week*, has been eagerly seized by the White House office of consumer affairs under President Reagan's special adviser, Virginia Knauer. The booklet is getting nationwide distribution in preparation for the American National Consumers Week, April 23 to 29. Of course, the traditionally reticent British do not rise to a national consumer week and do not even take much notice of World Consumer Rights Day, but then we have always been better at telling other people what to do. Still, if anyone does want to harass a shopkeeper, the day to do it is March 15. **PHS**

Keep politics out of polling

Richard Holme calls for an independent organization to oversee all aspects of elections, from boundaries to broadcasting

Almost alone among the world's democracies, Britain leaves politicians in charge of elections. It seems rather like Just William's favourite daydream of being left in charge of a sweetshop. For if politicians have a weakness it is that they are excessively fond of votes, and greedy to find new ways of accumulating them. Even under the supervision of Home Office civil servants, it is difficult to believe that governments do not have a keen eye to their political advantage in deciding the rules of a game in which they themselves are players.

The Crossman Diaries were revealing about the shenanigans which can accompany even the work of the Boundary Commission. Now we have proposals on the candidate's deposit which, despite protests that consultation has taken place, seem more compatible with the interests of the well-heeled party than those of its poorer competitors. The point at issue is not whether suspicion of political self-interest is justified, but rather that such suspicions can arise at all.

It is time that we established an Electoral Commission, with independent membership, to supervise the electoral process on behalf of the voters, and to remove temptation from the politicians. The commission would not be short of work, for new issues constantly arise affecting the conduct of elections.

Such a commission should supervise the work of the Boundary Commissioners on Westminster and European constituency boundaries, and consider problems such as holiday votes, dual residence registrations and the qualification of parliamentary candidates by money deposit or signature.

Questions of finance and broadcasting are crucial to success or failure in modern elections, but they are ignored or left to creaking *ad hoc* arrangements by Parliament. The Government has apparently realized that if it insists, as part of its trade union legislation, on contracting-in for the unions' political levy, this would inevitably raise awkward questions about shareholder approval for the company donations on which Tory central election funds depend.

It has drawn back from that, knowing that less dependence on institutional financing calls forth the spectre of public financing. Public finance may be objectionable to a privatizing government, but it is now used in some form in most European countries, the United States, Canada and Australia.

Other changes relating to money would be in the public interest. It has become a scandalous anomaly, for instance, that election expenditure – meticulously controlled and accounted for in constituencies – is uncontrolled on the part of the national parties. During May and June, 1983, millions of pounds were spent on national campaigns without any limit or accountability. Parties should be required to account for their revenue and disbursements to the Electoral Commission in a standard form which voters could understand.

In broadcasting, an uneasy game of "pass the parcel" now takes place between the BBC and the IBA on the one hand, and the squabbling cartel of parties on the other. A "pool" of time for party political broadcasts and party election broadcasts has first to be agreed and then shared out between the parties. It is essential that this process is as equitable as possible. Yet it is simply not fair to the broadcasting authorities to make them the arbiters. They need the judgment and protection of an impartial body concerned with the fairness of the whole electoral process.

The Electoral Commission should be appointed by and responsible to Parliament, reporting annually on its work. It would conduct elections within the framework of laws laid down by Parliament, make recommendations to improve the fairness of elections which parties and Parliament would disregard at their peril, educate and inform the public on voting and take over the role of the Speaker's Conference in considering important issues, such as proportional representation, when requested to do so by Parliament.

It is time we stopped treating elections as a branch of government administration. Ministers should take off their referee's shirts, lay down their whistles and become bone fide players in the electoral game.

The author is director of the all-party Campaign for Electoral Reform.

Robin Cook

Why Europe needs a new Messina

The most consistent feature in the history of Messina is the regularity with which it has been demolished by earthquake. After the last major cataclysm levelled every building in 1908, it was necessary to rebuild the town anew. Messina therefore provides a peculiarly apt symbol for a European Community that appears to tremble on the brink of a similar climax.

It is a measure of the gravity of the impending crisis that last week it should stimulate major statements on Europe from a leading figure in the two main political parties. As I cannot pretend to neutrality between Neil Kinnock and Sir Geoffrey Howe let me chose unashamedly to begin with Kinnock's call for a new Messina Conference.

Europe is now not at the crossroads, as the fashionable rhetoric would have it, but at a dead end. There are two major barriers across its present path. The first is the obsessive infatuation of the EEC with agriculture, which provides employment for one twentieth of Europe's workforce but gobbles up two thirds of the EEC budget. Future generations will regard with incomprehension an institution which set out ruthlessly to uproot the surplus steel capacity of Europe, but was incapable of arresting its burgeoning surplus of milk production.

The second obstacle is the introverted nature of the current preoccupation of the Community. It is palpably absurd that Britain should simultaneously rank among the four poorest member states and also be one of only two net contributors to the budget.

The extent to which the agenda of the Community is addressed only to those problems which it itself has created was perfectly illustrated by the Athens summit. On that occasion, the premiers of 10 nations, including all the major European powers, met in conclave for three days of talks which were wholly obsessed with the regulations for a super levy on cows or the dispute as to whether Britain was being short-changed out of the budget. They therefore found no time to consider such contemporary crises as Lebanon or Cyprus.

Sir Geoffrey Howe nicely demonstrated the drift out of touch with reality of those absorbed in such internal debates when he provided the other major statement of last week. In the course of his Brussels speech, Sir Geoffrey blithely prattled about Community progress in liberalizing lorry movements in the very week when any European with a television set could observe the most spectacular seizure of lorry movements in postwar history.

The reality with which Mr Kinnock's thesis is most concerned is the economic slump which, despite its historic dimensions, has not surfaced on the summit agendas other than under any other business. Preoccupied with buttressing the incomes of Europe's eight million farmers, the premiers of Europe have neglected its growing army of 13 million unemployed. There is an almost satirical quality to the manner in which they fuss together over further directives to ensure elimination of trade barriers, while separately they promote policies of domestic deflation deliberately designed to diminish their imports from one another.

Reflation in one country may be a chancy business, but it would appear most of the risks can be removed if there is parallel reflation throughout Europe. This is a field of inquiry on which the EEC has been notably silent, but the OECD has recently produced a study which concludes that for a given level of increase in public investment in any one country, the expansionary stimulus is doubled and the negative impact on fiscal and trade deficits is halved if it is accompanied by similar levels of reflation in the rest of Europe. The real challenge to Europe is how to achieve that coordinated reflation out of slump, and the true tragedy of Europe is that few of its leaders are interested in even asking the question.

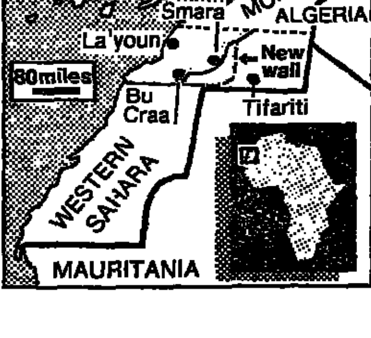
It is against that background that Neil Kinnock's call for a new Messina must be judged. What he proposes is a Europe in which sovereign governments turn from the pointless search on how to integrate their VAT regime and concentrate, instead, on how to cooperate in developing domestic economic policies that are complementary with one another, rather than competitive.

Unconsciously, Sir Geoffrey responded to this call on the very same day with a speech that perfectly expresses the need to relaunch the Community. From a studiedly dramatic opening in which he declaimed, "I am a European", the speech rapidly descended into furnishing footnotes to the current negotiations over the budget. In so far as Sir Geoffrey discovered a model which represents his aspirations for Europe, he found it in the achievement of the Benelux countries in producing a single standard form at customs posts. This is the Europe with which we are wearily familiar – a Europe that responds to the epic challenge of economic slump by devising another form. Roll on the earthquake.

The author is the Labour MP for Livingston.

Morocco: military gains, political losses – by Edward Mortimer





Polisario guerrillas listening to the BBC Arabic service in Tifariti, a village in the Western Sahara 40 miles east of Morocco's "New Wall" defence perimeter of earthworks and electronic scanning devices

After the riots, Hassan's need for desert peace

The Western Sahara is, in the words of its latest historian*, "one of the most arid and thinly populated countries in the world", a 100,000 square mile slab of desert about half the size of Spain but without "a single oasis of consequence". Yet, like Hamlet's "little patch of ground that hath in it no profit but the name", it is both the theatre and the prize of a war which has now been going on for eight years.

Although no other state officially endorses Morocco's claim to the territory (whose inhabitants were found by a United Nations visiting commission in 1975 to be overwhelmingly in favour of independence), western and Arab governments alike have given generous aid to King Hassan, fearing that if he lost the war it would cost him his throne. But since the January riots in several Moroccan cities, some observers are wondering whether the risk in carrying on the war is not greater than that of admitting defeat.

The riots were not strictly against the war. The leaflets distributed in Marrakesh, saluting "the heroic struggle of the Sahrawi people", probably reflected a crude attempt by a small Marxist-Leninist group to cash in on the popular unrest caused by price increases for basic necessities.

If the war stopped, Morocco's other problems would not thereby be solved. The question is whether the expense of the war, coming on top of other problems, may not be aggravating their effects to a point which will soon produce a political explosion. Morocco's foreign debt at $13,000m is now equivalent to 90 per cent of gross domestic product – one of the highest ratios in the world. The war is costing at least $2m – by some estimates, more than $3m – a day.

King Hassan himself described it two years ago as "a war of attrition, a vampire-like war which is draining Morocco of her blood". He is also under constant pressure to end it from the Organization of African Unity, a majority of whose members now recognize the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) proclaimed by the Polisario Front eight years ago on Spain's withdrawal from the territory.

In fact for the last two years the OAU has been all but paralyzed by the Sahara issue. It was one of the reasons why a quorum could not be obtained for the summit in Tripoli in 1982, preventing Colonel Gaddafi from assuming the OAU chairmanship. Morocco, supported by a number of other countries, refused to attend a meeting in which the SADR took part.

Last year's summit, at Addis Ababa, was able to go ahead only because the SADR delegation agreed "voluntarily and provisionally" to stay outside the conference hall. In reward, as it were, for this gesture of self-denial, the summit passed unanimously a resolution calling for direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario Front, and this was endorsed *nem con* by the United Nations General Assembly in December.

For tactical reasons Morocco did not oppose this resolution either in the OAU or at the United Nations, but in fact it refuses adamantly to have any public contact with Polisario, arguing that such negotiations would amount to implicit recognition of Polisario as what it claims to be – sole legitimate representative of the Sahrawi people – and thus would prejudge the result of the proposed referendum.

King Hassan, who went to great lengths to stop Spain from holding a referendum before pulling out of the territory in 1976, agreed belatedly in 1981 that one should be held to "verify" the allegiance of the inhabitants of the Sahara to the Moroccan state. He says he is still willing to hold such a referendum, according to the conditions laid down by the OAU's "implementation committee" in 1982.

"Many of these conditions were imposed on us," says Mr M'hamed Boucetta, who was Moroccan foreign minister at the time. "We gave all the guarantees demanded by Polisario and drafted by Algeria on its behalf." In his view the demand for direct negotiations is simply an excuse for Polisario to avoid the referendum, "because they know the result in advance, because they know it will show they represent only a tiny minority."

Not so, says Mr Muhammad Ould Sidati, an aide to President Muhammad Abdelaziz of the SADR. He claims that the work of the implementation committee in 1981-82 was sabotaged by Sékou Touré, President of Guinea and a close associate of King Hassan, who manoeuvred to avoid naming the parties to the conflict and to eliminate any reference to the "crucial element" of negotiations between them.

Indeed, there is so much controversy about who is and who is not a Sahrawi entitled to vote that it is hard to imagine both sides accepting the result of the referendum without a prior agreement at least on the electoral roll. Both sides agree that the census carried out by Spain in 1974, showing a population of only 73,000, was incomplete. But Polisario claims that the majority of the population – some 160,000 – is now in the refugee camps on Algerian territory, and that many of those now living in the Moroccan-controlled towns are not native Sahrawis but Moroccan immigrants.

The Moroccans say most of those in Algeria are not from Western Sahara but nomads from farther east, and that those who have moved into Western Sahara from Morocco are Sahrawis who had earlier taken refuge there from Spanish persecution.

Such claims are obviously not easy for a foreigner, escorted by the authorities on both sides, to verify. In La'youn, the capital, I met Sahrawis who claimed they had always considered themselves Moroccans. Some said they had supported and even fought for Polisario at the beginning of the war (though they could not coherently explain why) but had later become disillusioned at its authoritarian methods and obvious dependence on Algeria.

In the Algerian refugee camps and in the Polisario guerrilla forces I met many young men who clearly were genuine Sahrawis, born and brought up in the former Spanish territory, and who believed passionately in an independent Sahrawi people. Whether such a people existed before has in a sense become irrelevant, as with the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, the war goes on. King Hassan is gradually extending the area he controls – both the town of Smara and the phospate mine at Bu Craa are now well inside the Moroccan defensive wall – but at the price of a steady toll of casualties and a vast outlay on weapons and equipment. Diplomatically, he is now wrong-footed by both the OAU and UN, and the current OAU chairman, President Mengistu of Ethiopia, has sent a round robin to all African heads of state laying the blame firmly at Morocco's door.

Lavish premises are now being built in Guinea by Moroccan architects, allegedly paid with Saudi money, for the next OAU summit, due to be held there in May. It is assumed that Sékou Touré, as a quid pro quo, will do his best to keep the SADR out of the conference. But Algeria and its supporters may be no more willing now to attend a summit without the SADR than Morocco and its supporters were to attend one with the SADR in 1982. Sékou Touré, like Gaddafi before him, may find that the Sahara denies him the ultimate accolade to which every African leader aspires: the chairmanship of the OAU.

Tony Hodges, Historical Dictionary of Western Sahara (Scarecrow Press, £22.50).

Roger Scruton

A socialist evil to rival racism

An attempt has recently been made to label the Conservative Party as "racist". I hope it may contribute to the public assessment of this accusation if I try to define its principal term.

"Racism", as it is now universally described in the English-speaking world, involves three beliefs. The first is that mankind is divided into separate "races", defined, not by common culture or common language, but by a common ancestry. The second is the belief that a person's "race" tends to be expressed in his character, so that those who differ in their ancestry may for that reason differ in their customs, outlook, aptitudes and vitality. The third belief is that a person's racial affinity is morally decisive – in other words, that his rights and liabilities, his guilt and his innocence, are alike determined by his race.

Not all of those beliefs are equally dangerous. In fact, the first two are held by many of the critics of racism. Such critics have been known to praise (and rightly) the vitality and openness of African and Caribbean peoples, and to criticize the haughtiness of white Anglo-Saxons. They have sometimes attributed the excesses of communism to the "Russian" temperament, or to an "inherited" need for dictatorial authority. They have even been known to excuse the tribal massacres that have blighted modern Africa by referring to the "unnatural" mixing of peoples by colonial rule.

Such ways of thinking are probably fallacious. Nevertheless, they exemplify an idea by which many people live, the idea that "*ethnos* is *ethos*". It has been a dominant belief in human society that racial origins are a determinant of character. In all crucial decisions – marriage, war and alliance – this idea has provided one of the few points of departure from which a lasting course of action can be planned.

Neither of the first two beliefs has any tendency to confirm the third, and it is the third which is the most dangerous. Race is at best an influence on behaviour, not the moral source of it. It is the individual alone who acts, and he alone who should bear the benefits and the burdens of moral judgment. In all questions of right and duty, it is both wicked and nonsensical to refer to a person's race – whether the purpose be to accuse him, or to exonerate him. To do so is to place the crucial attribute of responsibility where it does not belong – with the abstract totality, rather than with the concrete individual.

The racist ignores every genuine right and obligation in pursuit of a merely abstract reckoning: he seeks to reward or punish the individual in respect of qualities which are not of his own choosing and for which he can in truth be neither praised nor blamed.

It is surely obvious that racism is an evil. Even if it were not obvious from its intrinsic nature, it is obvious from its effects. Millions have died precisely because, in the eyes of the racist, they were already dead, being of "inferior" race, without rights, condemned by their very existence.

Racism exemplifies the single most disturbing moral characteristic of the twentieth century. Ours is a century of "mass movements", and "impersonal forces". Our wars are declared and fought for purely abstract causes, regardless of every individual obligation and every individual right. And in peace, as in war, our affairs are conducted in the shadow of vast, impersonal crimes.

Consider another example – that of "classism", as I shall call it. This is distinguished by three beliefs. The first is that mankind is divided into separate classes, defined, not by common culture or common language, but by a common economic function. The second is that a person's "class" tends to be displayed in his character, affecting his customs, outlook, attitude and vitality. The third is that a person's "class membership" is morally decisive – determining rights and liabilities, innocence and guilt.

The first two beliefs are disputable, but comparatively innocent. But what of the third? Does it not permit just the same channeling of an impersonal, annihilating hatred, as is permitted by the grim allegiances of the racist? And has it proved any less devastating in its effects upon the conscience of our century? Consider the "liquidation of the kulaks", in which 10 million people paid the supreme price, merely for their membership of a "parasitic" class. Or consider the so-called "cultural revolution" in China, and the genocide initiated by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia.

Is it not obvious that – in the light of these crimes – we should be as careful to extinguish every spark of classism in our thinking as we are to "stamp out" and "kick out" racism?

Those last phrases belong to Labour Party propaganda, and return me to the point from which I began. Whether the accusations against the Conservative Party are justified I do not know. But I am certain that many members of the Labour Party are guilty of classism when they refer with such scorn to the "middle class", as though the great modern crimes against this "class" have been in no way initiated by socialist habits of thinking.

When Mr Kinnock sneers at the "middle class" commentators who do not understand his language, or boasts of the "working class" affiliations which "justify" his power, I feel a decided chill. Substitute "Jew" or "black" for "middle class" – for after all, we are in each case considering the fate of a minority – and you will see what I mean.

German legislation in the pipeline

Bonn

In a few months the 520 members of the Bundestag will assemble in the abandoned neo-Gothic pumping station of a former waterworks, overgrown with brambles and creepers and hidden by bushes.

For about two years the heart of Western Europe's largest democracy will beat in a dusty vaulted chamber that once housed the gleaming 35-horse power pumps, the pride of the sleepy provincial city of Bonn when they were installed in 1875.

For many MPs their bizarre new home beside the Rhine could hardly be worse than the present unprepossessing building nearby, surely Western Europe's most uninspiring forum of democracy.

Looking like the functional 1930s teachers' training college that it was, the Bundestag is the embodiment of the Adenauer era's assertion that Bonn was only a provisional capital. But like all temporary structures, it became a fixture and something of an embarrassment.

For all the world like the headquarters of a minor life assurance company in a leafy side street in Dorking, the building is hardly commensurate with West Germany's present power, prestige or sense of style.

The Bundestag was therefore the natural focus for some grandiose plans when the country faced up to the fact a decade ago that Bonn was going to remain the capital for the foreseeable future (though this has not stopped the restorers of the Berlin Reichstag from rebuilding a central chamber which could, if necessary, accommodate all the deputies from a reunited Germany).

Architects sketched out a DM1bn (£250m) complex that would have been the second largest parliament in the world, after Washington. They spoke of tearing down surrounding two-storey villas, the domestic functions of which have long since been usurped by parliamentarians and journalists in search of office space; they wanted to bulldoze a majestic avenue that would sweep down from the impressive chancellery to lavish new offices, lobbies and debating chamber. But then the money ran out.

So today's plans are more in keeping with the straitened circumstances of West Germany: the new complex is to be scaled down in size and cost, with each deputy sacrificing a planned third office for his staff.

The scheme has now been approved, after several years' debate and not before time: recent reports point out that the Bundestag is dangerous, with power and television cables criss-crossing the wooden ceiling, no proper fire exits and a public gallery that could collapse because of weak support pillars.

Before rebuilding begins, the old waterworks will be spruced up – at a cost of DM12m – and fitted with a cafeteria, lobby, public gallery and members' rooms.

The impending move has rekindled an old debate about seating arrangements. At present, each member sits at his appointed desk in a semicircle facing the Speaker. Surprisingly for Germany, there is little political logic: the centrist Free Democrats sit on the far right, while the radical Greens are sandwiched in the centre between the Christian and Social Democrats.

In the waterworks, the Bundestag may have to be rearranged like the House of Commons, with members sitting opposite each other on benches and without room for all.

Herr Detlef Kleinert, chairman of the parliamentary building committee, thinks this would be a good thing, as it would discourage status consciousness and the present "bunker mentality" caused by each person seeking refuge behind his desk. He hopes it might lead to a permanent change.

Other experts prefer the Vienna model – a circular seating arrangement which has the advantage of looking fairly full even when the building is fairly empty. Television viewers especially like to see their deputies hard at work.

A century ago the local press was wondering whether the new water pumps would mean that the age of progress and water closets had arrived in Bonn. Today the water works is the focus for a rather different debate, but one which deputies and the press feel is equally important for the face of the city and the comfort of its most influential inhabitants.

Michael Binyon



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ONE NATION, TWO STANDARDS

Intimate relations between East and West Germany are too deeply rooted in the self-interest of both states to be seriously upset by the presence of five relatives of the East German prime minister, Herr Willi Stoph, in the West German embassy in Prague. Nevertheless, it presents the Germans with an awkwardness.

The East Germans are embarrassed not least because the defection of members of a prominent and privileged political family is a poor advertisement for the regime and its system. They are also in a dilemma because, if the family were given safe conduct to West Germany, there might be a rush of East German citizens to the same escape route.

The West Germans are embarrassed because they do not want their embassies besieged in this way, yet they cannot send the group back to East Germany unconditionally. Apart from the moral and political implications of doing so they are restrained by the fact that East Germans enjoy automatic citizenship in West Germany. The East Germans know this, so they also know that they cannot realistically expect to get the family back.

There seem to be only two possible solutions. One is for the family to remain as guests of the embassy for as many years as it takes to find a solution, but this would attract steady publicity and be a burden on everyone. The other, which is the most likely, is for the group temporarily to go home, provided it has received firm guarantees that a formal application for emigration will be granted immediately. This was the solution found for the Siberian Pentecostalists in the American embassy in Moscow, but only after many years. They went home and were then "allowed" to leave.

Since the Soviet authorities kept their bargain over the Pentecostalists there is no reason to doubt that the East Germans would keep a similar bargain. Indeed, they have even more reason to do so because of their desire to keep good relations with West Germany. They are heavily dependent on the hard currency which comes to them under various headings, such as road tolls for Western access to Berlin, payment for the release of prisoners, credits and, of course, very substantial trade. For all this they accept some, obviously tolerable embarrassments. They let out limited numbers of their citizens (recently far more than usual), and permit large numbers of West Germans to visit East Germany, bringing hard currency along with the awkward infections of capitalism. They turn a blind eye to the almost universal watching of Western television. Recently, under pressure from Bonn, they have dismantled some of the automatic firing devices on the frontier (but there are still armed guards all along it).

They are keen to maintain good relations with Western Europe while the superpowers ponder their own and have not acted on the threats of an "ice age" after the missiles were deployed in Europe. So the two German leaders, Herr Kohl and Herr Honecker, had long and apparently cordial talks in Moscow on the occasion of Mr Andropov's funeral. Of course, it is also in Moscow's interest to woo West Germany at this moment, so Herr Honecker is unlikely to be acting entirely on his own initiative.

This increasing convergence of interests between the two Germanies is now a factor in European politics which neither alliance can ignore, though each side respects the interests of its own and the other's alliance. Moscow permits it because to disrupt it would cause problems in both states – diplomatic and political friction with Bonn and growing discontent in East Germany, where contacts with the West help compensate for the deprivation of political rights and static or declining living standards. The West raises no objections, partly for the same reasons, partly because Bonn remains staunchly loyal to the alliance, and partly because we must hope that the balance of advantage in the complex inner German relationship continues to come out broadly in favour of the West. Although the individual bargains that are struck can seem to fluctuate in favour of one side or the other, it is always East Germany, shielding its insecurity behind its infamous wall, that is on the defensive.

SMALLHOLDER CONTRADICTIONS

The Agricultural Holdings Bill is now clear of the House of Lords and awaits its second reading in the Commons. The Bill seals the compact between the landowners' association and the farmers' union by which in return for a new "softer" formula for rent arbitration there shall be no more three-generation succession tenancies. It is lobbyists' legislation, of the kind which ought to prick parliament to write some of the script for itself. Some peers took up the challenge but the House sat on them.

The purpose of the Bill, the policy underlying it, according to ministers is to come to the rescue of the farm tenancy system in the face of its long decline. The system is rightly thought to deserve encouragement since it promotes an efficient division between fixed and working capital and between capital and husbandry skill. It also prevents farming from becoming the almost exclusive preserve of the wealthy or a virtually hereditary occupation. Nearly 90 per cent of farm land was rented at the beginning of the century, now between 35 and 40 per cent. The rate of decline has been fairly steady.

Measured against so large and long a change the present Bill is exceedingly modest, as its authors and pilots are ready to admit. Its modesty has been fully respected by the House of Lords. Various ways of extending its range were tried in order to fortify the tenancy system. All were rejected except an amendment permitting agreed succession *inter vivos* at the age of 65 or over, which may slightly speed up the transfer of tenancies already assured. The following proposals were made and failed: term tenancies; starter tenancies; tenancies to run to retiring age not death, coupled with a pension scheme; cancellation of rights of succession where they already exist; an obligation on institutional landlords to let 90 per cent of their estate; Lord Walston's national land trust to create a pool of tenancies; enlarged powers of a similar kind for the Crown Estates. The tax regime, which is probably the largest single factor in the decline of the rented sector, was outside the scope of the Bill and outside the competence of the House of Lords.

The Government was not necessarily wrong to organize the defeat of these amendments, to most of which objections can be found even where they serve to promote the letting of farmland. But there was one proposal concerning which the minister's objection is highly paradoxical. The statutory smallholdings of county councils form less than one per cent of all farmland, but they account for 15 per cent of new tenancies and an even higher proportion of new tenancies admitting new entrants to farming. Their importance in the context of a "farming ladder" is far greater than their aggregate size might suggest. The power of county councils to serve as agricultural landlords in this way goes back to an Act of 1892 when that unquestionable Tory Lord Salisbury was prime minister. The idea was to relieve depression and counter the tendency for the small farmer to disappear. The holdings serve a related purpose to this day.

The present financial pressures on county councils are now making these estates for the first time subject to serious erosion. Several proposals were made in committee in the Lords for ways of stabilizing the position. All were rejected by the minister on the ground that "we do not consider it a part of central government's function to second guess the decisions of local authorities in that respect" – that from a government whose inroads into local discretion are notorious.

So, while the Government professes to be seriously concerned to reinforce the agricultural tenancy system, it is happy to stand by and watch the breakup of publicly owned estates of smallholdings wherever this generation of councillors prefers to convert those assets into higher-yielding investments. It will not even issue guidance in the matter conveying the priorities of its agricultural policies.

Even while the Lords were debating this, Somerset County Council resolved to embark upon a policy of disposal. It has 168 fully equipped commercial holdings, averaging 76 acres. Like all but 11 of the 54 counties, Somerset had a net surplus on its smallholdings account in the last financial year – £260,000. On assets valued at £12 million as they stand, and £35 million with vacant possession, that is a small return. The council reckons it would do better by selling, putting the money on deposit, and paying its bills with the interest. Hitherto it has sold parcels of agricultural land only for the better management of the estate. It has now decided to sell on the open market whenever vacancy occurs and enter into negotiation for purchase by sitting tenants. Through vacancies alone perhaps a quarter of the estate will have passed from the rented agricultural sector in the course of the next five years.

This type of decision, which is not isolated, is so plainly contrary to the wider social and economic purpose of preserving the tenancy option and a sufficiency of smallholdings, and of facilitating the entry of new farmers – it is so plainly a sacrifice of that purpose to the immediate exigencies of local government funding – that the Government must either drop the pretence that it is bothered about the erosion of the rented sector, or it must, at the very least, acquaint county councils with the thrust of national policy in this matter. National policy once declared (as the Government is eager to insist in another context) is something local authorities have an obligation to respect.

TATARS FAR FROM HOME

If Mr Chernenko wishes to confound his critics and show that he possesses some reforming initiative, he should take immediate action to right the wrongs suffered by one of the smallest nations under his control: the Crimean Tatars, less than half a million in number, who have been dispossessed of their homeland longer than the Palestinians. The political trial of the Tatar leader Mustafa Dzhemilev coincided with the Chernenko election. As a prominent figure in the human rights movement, his release would signify a more enlightened approach than that prevailing under the former KGB chief Yuri Andropov.

During the trial, which took place in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan in Soviet Central Asia, the local newspaper *Pravda vostoka* tried to reduce protest demonstrations by attempting some character assassination. It accused Mr Dzhemilev of trying "by the dirtiest methods to blacken the name of our country and people, hindering the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet state". But the USSR is not one country, nor is there a single, united Soviet people. Far from "betraying the interests of his country" Mustafa Dzhemilev suffered four terms of imprisonment for championing the right of his people to return to their homeland.

In his latest trial he was actually charged with "provocation" because he tried to honour the wishes of his father, who died last year in Uzbekistan exile, to be buried in his native Crimea. Of course all Soviet citizens tend to be restricted to the place of residence marked in their internal passports, but this regulation is particularly resented by the Crimean Tatars, deported forty years ago by Stalin when Dzhemilev was only a few months old.

During the Nazi occupation of the Crimea, thousands of Tatars served in German anti-partisan detachments, while others joined the Soviet partisans. Many served with the Red Army, some winning the highest decorations for bravery. But Stalin condemned the whole nation. "Liberation" was followed by mass executions of collaborators and on 18 May 1944 the Crimean Tatars, including those who had fought against the Germans, were rounded up and deported to Siberia and Cental Asia. Thousands of children and old people died in cattle trucks during transportation and in appallingly brutal conditions of resettlement.

The Tatars claim that more than 100,000 – almost half the nation – perished in the course of resettlement. While denying the scale of genocide the Soviet authorities under Khrushchev absolved the Crimean Tatars of mass treachery but refused them the right of residence in the Crimea.

There is no insurmountable economic or social obstacle to their return, since the Crimea has a labour shortage while Central Asia has a surplus; Tatars who settled in the Crimea would be a small proportion of the area's population. But the Soviet leaders have always avoided making concessions to any nationality, no matter how small, for fear that they might encorage demands from the other discontented peoples of the USSR. Can Mr Chernenko prove to be the exception?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Breaches in police code of practice

From the Chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales

Sir, Police officers will be astonished to learn that the Chairman of the Executive Committee of Justice (February 21) believes that the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill "contains no sanction" to ensure that police officers do not break the comprehensive code of police powers in connection with investigation of crime.

Clause 59 gives statutory authority to the codes of practice, laid down by the Home Secretary, to govern police actions in connexion with detention, treatment, questioning and identification of persons by police officers, searches of premises by police officers, and seizure of property found by police officers in searches of persons or premises.

Clause 60(8) says, "A police officer shall be liable to disciplinary proceedings for a failure to observe any provision of such a code." The only exception to this mandatory rule is where a police officer's alleged breach of the code amounts to an allegation of criminal conduct and he has been acquitted of that charge in a court of law.

Mr Paul Sieghart may not regard this provision as a "sanction". We do, and we are concerned that the sanction has been drafted in such a way as to require disciplinary proceedings for even the most inadvertent or minor breaches. Our members stand to lose their jobs, or their rank, or be heavily fined, by police disciplinary hearings. Mr Sieghart is not entitled to dismiss this provision as of no account.

Justice puts forward a proposal that was considered and rightly rejected by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure. To have a rule of evidence that would automatically exclude evidence obtained in breach of the code would ensure that a guilty person escaped justice. It is open to the court now to exclude evidence obtained in breach of the Judges' Rules.

Clause 60 of the Bill also makes it clear (sub-section 7) that the court may take account of the provisions of the codes of practice when deciding any question raised concerning them. In other words, the royal commission felt this was best left to the common sense of the judges, and we agree.

Nothing has done more to discredit the criminal justice system of the United States than the adoption of what is called "the fruit of the poisoned tree" by which evidence held to be wrongly obtained is excluded. This doctrine has resulted in palpably guilty men escaping the consequence of horrific or very serious crimes. In these circumstances, such a rule becomes not a guarantee of due process, but an affront to the name of Justice.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE J. CURTIS, Chairman,
Police Federation of England and Wales,
15-17 Langley Road,
Surbiton,
Surrey.
February 24.

Unions under test in GCHQ clash

From Professor Raphael Loewe

Sir, Whilst I question the Government's wisdom in rejecting a compromise for GCHQ by which what is needed could have been substantially secured *for the time being*, I sympathise with Mrs Thatcher's misgivings.

Rank-and-file trades union loyalty and patriotism are, of course, not in question: I have seen how my fellow-countrymen can pull together when they come to appreciate the gravity of crisis or threat. But the track record of many trades union leaders inspires no such confidence. Your readers will recall enough instances of defiance of the courts, of attempted frustration of police responsibility to protect public order, of incitement to law-breaking, and of studied disregard of public safety, convenience, and amenity in pursuit of sectional interests, to make their own identifications.

In particular, they will remember a statement made during the health workers' strike that some patients might have to die to prove a union's point. In view of such instances, how could any responsible prime minister be confident that assurances now belatedly offered in good faith by trades union leadership regarding preservation of the operational integrity of GCHQ will be honoured by their successors, and that the latter may not at some future date bring intolerable moral blackmail to bear on their membership?

Doubtless trade union spokesmen will rejoin that they have no monopoly of a type of moral blackmail that can endanger public liberties, interests or safety: an unscrupulous government could exercise it much more powerfully. The difference is that the electorate would have itself to thank for having installed such a government.

Until trades union leadership can persuade us that it will never again support or condone the subordination of national and public interests to sectional ones it will not merit our respect: and until the Labour Party convincingly repudiates its subservience to the control that the unions, as its main financial support, seek and indeed claim the right to exercise, it will not again be considered a credible alternative government by many moderate, non-party members such as

Yours faithfully,
RAPHAEL LOEWE,
50 Gurney Drive, N2.

From Mr Peter Kelly

Sir, Most people probably accept the Government's contention that the work of GCHQ is of vital importance to defence and should not be liable to interruption.

But the services of GCHQ must have seemed of purely secondary interest to those who suffered and died in the recent hospital strike. Apart from hospital workers, many other classes of the population, for instance teachers, railway workers, air-traffic controllers, do work of vital importance and have brought misery and loss to millions of people by going on strike.

At long, long last the trade unions are showing some sense of responsibility and, as far as GCHQ is concerned, they now seem ready to conduct themselves there in such a way as to exclude strikes. Having got this far, the Prime Minister should seize the opportunity with both hands, in the hope that the idea of avoiding strikes in vital areas will spread.

But if Mrs Thatcher stands out for unconditional surrender she is unlikely to get it because British people, trade unionists or not, are not built that way; and we shall all suffer from the ensuing confrontation.

Your obedient servant,
PETER KELLY,
73 Ottways Lane,
Ashtead, Surrey.

Civil liberties in widest context

From the General Secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties

Sir, Your leader (February 24) on the fiftieth anniversary of the National Council for Civil Liberties struck the right balance. I am the first to agree that a society in which democratic institutions warrant respect and the rule of law is upheld is the most favourable climate for maintaining individual liberties. The phrase, drifting into "a law-and-order society" should not be construed as anti-authority or disrespect for the rule of law. But the concept of "law and order" begs two questions, which are what "laws" are just and desirable, and what "order" is needed in society.

Phrases such as "law and order" and "national security" are increasingly used as signals for the deprivation of liberty where the Government chooses not to further explain the reasons for the deprivation. Laws must be respected in the community. Policing by coercion undermines law enforcement and contributes to the disorder it seeks to prevent.

One need not be "soft on crime" to suggest that the law already gives the police sufficient powers of arrest and detention where they have reasonable grounds that a crime has been committed. Violence in society cannot be cured by injustice; it is with some concern that I observe that, if the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill is enacted, Britain will have the longest period of detention for questioning in any common-law nation.

I intend to stick rigidly to my promise to approach these and other civil liberty issues on an all-party basis. I hope soon to be able to announce the reformation of the all-party parliamentary civil liberties groups with the chair from the majority party.

Yours sincerely,
LARRY GOSTIN,
General Secretary,
National Council for Civil Liberties,
21 Tabard Street, SE1.
February 27.

Housing anomaly

From Lord Molson

Sir, The sudden announcement that the Inland Revenue, with the Government's consent, intend to interpret the law of taxation in a new way so as to increase the burden on building societies by a large sum, estimated by some experts at £160m, comes at a time when the House of Lords is considering the Housing and Building Control Bill.

One important effect of this Bill, if unamended, will be to extend the right to buy at a substantial discount to many of the tenants rented houses specially adapted for the disabled and elderly.

The policies of the Government are contradictory. One action reduces the ability of the building societies to finance the buying of their rented houses by the tenants; another action would increase the number of tenants enjoying the right to do so.

Nor is that the only, perhaps not the most striking anomaly. Because the House of Lords in the last Parliament rejected the proposal to give the right to buy to tenants of charitable trusts, the Government have announced their intention to subsidize the purchase of houses in the open market by tenants who would have been able to buy if the House of Lords had approved the Government's proposal.

An authoritative estimate has just been published that this will probably cost the Exchequer £600m.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
MOLSON,
House of Lords.
February 25.

What monopoly?

From Mr Richard Barr

Sir, If solicitors charge three times less in the north than they do in the south (report, February 16) it hardly seems realistic to maintain that they are operating a monopoly.

Those who do not like this differential have an easy solution: instruct a northern solicitor to act in their southern house transaction. The law is the same everywhere in England and Wales. Telegraphic transfers, the modern formula for exchanging contracts over the telephone and the reliability of undertakings given by solicitors would all ensure that a client needs to suffer no delay if his solicitor is hundreds of miles away.

It is ironic that your report also highlights the real monopoly in property transactions: that of the Government to charge stamp duty. North or south, this is still by far the biggest single item in a house buying transaction.

Should not the Government introduce legislation to abolish this tax? To do so would reduce the cost of property transactions far more than any steps to eliminate the so called "solicitors' monopoly".

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BARR,
Dawbarns, Solicitors,
Listergate House,
80 Chapel Street,
King's Lynn,
Norfolk.
February 17.

The clean break

From Mr J. F. R. Harris

Sir, It is a strange kind of morality which compels your leader writer (February 16) to describe the principle of the "clean break" after divorce as a "laudable ideal" and a similarly perverse conception of justice to hope that the outworking of this principle will become a "just reality".

That two parties, having entered into a union of an essentially permanent nature, should be granted with impunity the indulgence of ending their mutual maintenance obligations together with a once and for all division of matrimonial property is surely a notion singularly devoid of any moral responsibility or justice.

Yours faithfully,
J. F. R. HARRIS,
41 Lyon Park Avenue,
Wembley,
Middlesex.
February 16.

Community reform

From Mr Stuart R. de la Mahotière

Sir, Mr Neil Kinnock's proposals for reform of the European Community are attractively deceptive and supporters of the Community who feel that some reform is needed should beware of falling out of the frying pan into the fire.

It has long been the contention of many socialists that the EEC is a bastion of capitalism and, like Carthage, should be destroyed. In essence the reforms are simple: for capitalism read socialism and for a market economy read *dirigisme*. Revision of the Treaty of Rome will produce no changes of substance. The concept of unity based on a free market economy with the Commission as initiator and supervisor will remain.

However, Mr Kinnock and his followers are not the only ones who feel that the Community should alter course. Only in agriculture and fisheries has a common policy been produced and it has contrived to please only a very small minority, of farmers and fishermen. In all other spheres – financial, commercial, industrial and political – there is some unity on paper but little in practice. Non-tariff barriers, for instance, still hinder the flow of trade.

M Monnet, M Schuman, Dr Adenauer, M Spaak and Alcide de Gasperi all saw the Treaty of Rome as forming the nucleus of a federal united states of Europe. The process was to be gradual, one step leading logically and necessarily to the next. But the project never really got under way.

From de Gaulle onwards no member government was prepared to surrender its power and authority to an "areopagus of stateless men". Not unnaturally they held, and still hold, the view that their first allegiance is to the parliaments and people who elected them. But this attitude does not lead to the path of federation. Without the political will to survive, the Community will stagnate and possibly die a natural death. Enlargement will not delay the process – on the contrary.

The founding fathers were right. Only a federation of European states has a chance of providing the sort of instrument which enables individual states to retain the maximum amount of political and economic freedom without imperilling the federal structure as whole.

Yours faithfully,
STUART R. de la MAHOTIERE,
The Tithe House,
43 Tidcombe Lane,
Tiverton, Devon.

Artistic freedom

From the President of the Critics' Circle

Sir, Apartheid is contemptible. But so is the idea that a performing artist will not be allowed to perform unless he toes a political line – a notion unmistakably totalitarian in flavour. The Critics' Circle vigorously condemns the action of Camden council in banning the pianist, Malcolm Binns, from the Camden Festival unless he signs an understanding never again to perform in South Africa (report, February 23).

The question is not whether one is for or against the regime in question but whether one is for or against fundamental freedoms in our own society. Most of us regard most of the communist countries as repressive police states, but we would not dream of suggesting that our performing artists should not visit them. The more unfree and unjust a society, the more important it is that it should be penetrated by art and ideas from outside.

Camden council should on no account be appeased on this issue and should back down at once.

At a council meeting of the Critics' Circle held yesterday my colleagues unanimously requested me to write this letter.

Yours etc,
BRYAN MAGEE, President,
The Critics' Circle,
As from: 12 Falkland House, W8.
February 24.

Countryside heritage

From Professor Kenneth Mellanby

Sir, Many of your correspondents are concerned with the changes to our farmland which have occurred since 1945. There has been an unprecedented increase in food production, but the appearance of the landscape has changed, and the richness of its wildlife has generally decreased. It is natural therefore that conservationists should wish to do everything possible to protect, or restore, the beauty and richness of the countryside.

However, it is often forgotten that what we wish to preserve, particularly in lowland Britain, is a man-made countryside, the results of previous agricultural practices. To retain its value it needs to be managed, often in an uneconomic way. Thus we deplore the loss of hedges – the only one I can see from my house surrounds my own garden – and the suggestion that they should be protected by planning legislation is attractive.

However, I believe this might well be counterproductive. We could prevent a farmer from grubbing up a hedge, but he could get rid of it simply by leaving it alone. In a few years it would be a gappy thicket. A hedge needs to be cut or laid, a meadow to be grazed or mown, to retain the features which we value.

I believe that the only hope for the countryside lies in the willing cooperation between farmers and conservationists. Legislation can so often have the opposite effect from that intended. Some farmers are already violently anti-conservationist and it would not be difficult to drive others into the same camp.

On the other hand, an increasing number obviously care deeply for wildlife and rural beauty.

I believe that the most promising development is the extension of the activities of the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Groups (FWAGs). If they succeed in bringing both sides together the greater is the chance that uncommitted or even antagonistic farmers may be persuaded to make some sacrifices to ensure that we all have a more interesting and beautiful rural landscape to share with our flora and fauna.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH MELLANBY,
Hill Farm,
Wennington,
Huntingdon,
Cambridgeshire.
February 20.

Penny wise?

From Mr J. P. McKeone,

Sir, To mark my eightieth birthday 25 pence has been added to my weekly retirement pension. Of this handsome sum the taxman gets 7½p.

Surely a voucher for a free toffee apple would cost the taxpayer less administratively if indeed the remaining 17½p would go that far.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. McKEONE,
4 Red Oak Close,
Orpington,
Kent.

Falklands fisheries

From Mr M. B. F. Ranken

Sir, Simon Lyster (feature, February 18) really should reflect on why fisheries were never developed around the Falklands or even South Georgia before the recent war, especially so as world fish catches trebled over 20 years and have only crept up slowly in the past decade or so. But little of that catch ever came from these waters.

One British skipper described the southern part of the Patagonian continental shelf as a desert and that is certainly true in various seasons and years.

British and European companies showed no interest, although the Spanish, with Argentine licences, have long fished farther north, occasionally as far south as Commodoro Rivadavia; so have Greeks and Portuguese.

Few Argentine vessels ever venture farther south than Chubut Province, although Argentina claims a 200-mile limit and more. The Japanese have also been active for certain species. But only the Russians and Poles have been major exploiters of these waters and those around South Georgia, in certain years and certain seasons, with often long gaps between.

All these countries have had ready markets for their frozen products, too often of poor quality because of serious processing and freezing difficulties, prior to the long transit north to major markets, mainly in the Northern Hemisphere.

The Falklands themselves have not been enthusiastic fish eaters and British fishing companies have not been sanguine about the likely profitability of a major investment so far from home to exploit unfamiliar difficult species.

Krill off South Georgia is another matter, but here again massive investment is involved and reliable technology still lacking.

Declaration of fishing limits to 200 miles or median lines could be a source of royalties and, if properly enforced, might assist resource management and environmental protection. But enforcement also involves the heavy expense of patrol vessels and aircraft, shore administration and, eventually, scientific and statistical support.

South-west Atlantic fish have not had a reliable reputation in world markets and cannot be assured of a high enough price to justify a major investment of capital, management and manpower, all of it imported over great distances.

Yours faithfully,
M. B. F. RANKEN,
28 Clare Lawn Avenue, SW14.
February 20.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 27: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfth Man, this evening gave a Reception for the Patron's Club of the Lord's Taverners at St James's Palace.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend a dinner given by the Jewish Welfare Board to mark the 125th anniversary of its foundation in Guildhall on March 6.

The Princess of Wales will visit the Lisson Grove Health Centre on March 7.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit HQ United Kingdom Land Forces, Wilton, Wiltshire on March 7.

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a reception given by the National Council for Voluntary Organizations at Drapers' Hall on March 7.

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a dinner, in aid of the Museum of Army Flying at Fishmongers' Hall on March 12.

The Princess of Wales will visit the Rheumatology Unit, Hammersmith Hospital on March 13.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Royal Society of Arts, will present the society's pollution abatement technology awards at the society's house, John Adam Street on March 14.

The Prince of Wales, president, Royal Naval Film Corporation, will attend the annual meeting on board HMS President, King's Reach on March 14.

A memorial service for Mr Richard Hughes will be held at noon today at St Bride's, Fleet Street.

A memorial service for Dr Elston Grey-Turner will be held in Saint Pancras Church, Euston Road, London NW1, on Wednesday, March 7, 1984, at noon.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major-General Geoffrey Boyd Wilson will be held at the Garrison Church, Woolwich, on Thursday March 29 at 11.15am. Those wishing to attend are asked to notify the Headquarters, Director Royal Artillery (RA3), Woolwich SE18 by no later than March 14 (01-856 5533 ext 391).

Birthdays today

Sir Peter Baxendell, 59; Mr John Carson, 57; Sir James Clair-Cunynghame, 71; Mr Alfred Burke, 66; Dr D. P. Burkitt, 73; Field Marshal Sir James Cassels, 77; Sir William Coldstream, 76; Mr Barry Fantoni, 44; Major-General E. F. Foxton, 70; Dame Frances Gardner, 71; Admiral Sir Peter Herbert, 55; Sir Peter Medawar, OM, CH, 69; Mr Brian Moore, 52; Professor Linus Pauling, 83; Mr Robin Phillips, 42; Sir Ronald Radford, 68; Professor Sir Stephen Spender, 75; Sir Michael Young-Herries, 61.

Luncheons

Foreign Press Association in London
The Syrian Ambassador was the guest of the Foreign Press Association at luncheon yesterday at 11 Carlton House Terrace. Mr Syed Mustafa, president, was in the chair.

Dinners

University College London Union Debating Society
Mr J. H. Whittingham, President of the University College London Union Debating Society, presided at the annual foundation dinner and debate held at University College London yesterday. The guests of honour were Lord Molloy, honorary president, and Lady Molloy and the other speakers were Miss Clare Higgins, Miss Christiane Harris, Professor E. Ash, Mr T. McNally, Mr Austin Mitchell, MP, Mr Allan Roberts, MP, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, and Mr Matthew Parris, MP. Mr P. Farrington acted as steward.

Mason's Company
The Lord Mayor, Dame Mary Donaldson, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, was received by the Master of the Mason's Company, Mr Gordon Tait, at the annual ladies' dinner held at the Mansion House last night. The speakers included the Upper Warden, Mr C. J. Jeffries, and the Governor of the Company of Merchant Adventurers of the City of York, Mr J. Sykes Rymer.

Forthcoming marriages

Major R. J. K. Cassels and Mrs R. A. Marshall
The engagement is announced between Robert James Kirk Cassels, Queen's Own Highlanders, only son of Field Marshal Sir James Cassels, of Barrow, Suffolk, and the late Lady Cassels, and Rosemary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Major W. J. Kingdom and Mrs Kingdom, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr A. M. Collins and Miss N. J. de Klee
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of the late Mr John Vaughan Collins and Mrs Honor Collins, of Putney, and Nichola, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Murray de Klee, of Auchnacraig, Isle of Mull.

Mr R. G. Ellis and Miss G. F. Hewlett
The engagement is announced between Gordon, elder son of Mr and Mrs N. S. Ellis, of South Shields, Tyne and Wear, and Gillian, only daughter of Mr and Mrs S. A. Hewlett, of Westbury-on-Severn, Gloucestershire.

Mr P. A. Flamank and Miss J. A. Astley
The engagement is announced between Peter Alan, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. C. Flamank, of Christchurch, New Zealand, and Jill Alexandra, second daughter of the late Mr A. M. Astley and of Mrs O. M. Astley, of Taplow, Buckinghamshire.

Mr E. P. A. Horsley and Miss M. E. S. Bicket
The engagement is announced between Phillip, son of Mrs C. W. Horsley and the late Mr Osborne Horsley, of Grantham Drive, York, and Margreta, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Bicket, of Fulwood Park, Liverpool.

Mr P. C. Seaward and Miss H. J. Frame
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs D. R. Seaward, Yeovil, Somerset, and Hilary, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. D. Frame, Bearsden, Glasgow.

Mr J. D. A. Ramsbotham and Miss C. S. J. Fenwick
The engagement is announced between James Ramsbotham, The Royal Green Jackets, elder son of Brigadier and Mrs David Ramsbotham, of Morteyn, Piddlehinton, Dorset, and Carolyn, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Tom Fenwick, of Bishop Oak, Wolsingham, co Durham.

Mr R. Tilson and Miss J. M. Hill
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Robert W. Tilson, of Crawley, Sussex, and Judith, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack G. Hill, of Little Hallingbury, Essex.

Mr C. Timmins and Miss N. Escott
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Colonel and Mrs J. B. Timmins, of Warburton, Cheshire, and Nickola, only daughter of Mr and Mrs F. G. Escott, of Downend, Avon.

Mr M. C. Webber and Miss J. E. Elkington
The engagement is announced between Mark Charles, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Webber, of Bamford, Derbyshire, and Jane Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr Kenneth Elkington and the late Mrs Elkington, of Boston, Lincolnshire.

Mr N. P. Wetton and Miss C. Apel
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Paul, second son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Wetton, of Hampton Court, and Christine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. A. Apel, of Bevern, West Germany.

Marriages

Mr A. Little and Mrs S. Bucknall
The marriage took place in Somerset on Saturday February 25, between Mr Adrian Little and Mrs Dinah Bucknall, widow of Simon Bucknall, both of West Bagborough, Taunton, Somerset.

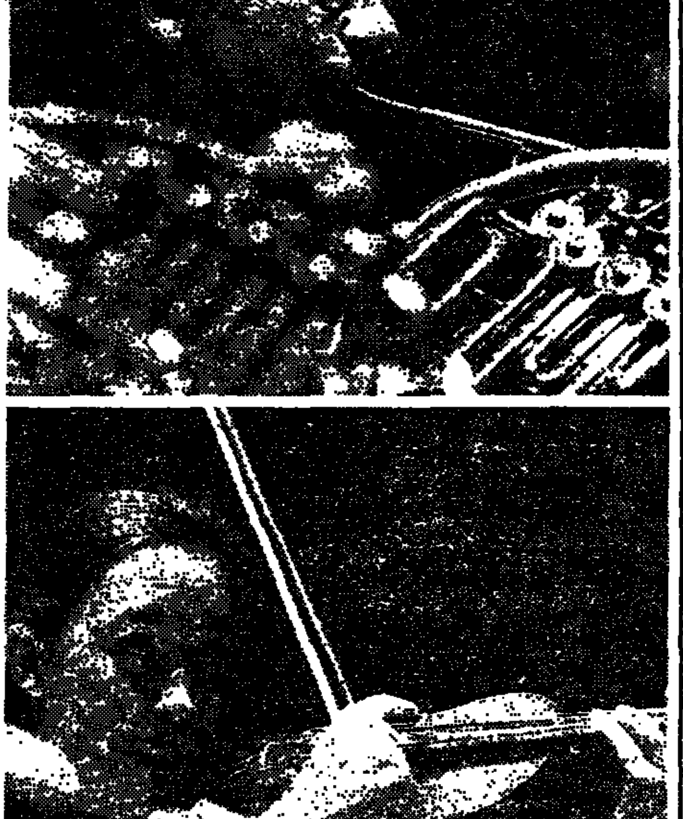
Church news

Appointments
The Rev H A Hallet, Assistant Curate of Christ Church, Walshaw, diocese of Manchester, to be Vicar of St Mary the Virgin, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, diocese of Bath and Wells.
The Rev G Harper, Vicar of Brinsworth with Catcliffe, diocese of Sheffield, to be Assistant Curate of St Peter, Halliwell, [illegible].
The Rev F R Heseman, Vicar of Sparkwell, diocese of Exeter, to be also Priest-in-charge of [illegible], same diocese.
The Rev J H Kelly, Chaplain of Stoke Heath Borstal, diocese of Lichfield, to the benefice of Castletown, diocese of Sodor and Man.
The Rev N I Kerr, Curate of Rainham, diocese of Rochester, to be Vicar of St Edmund, Dartford, same diocese.
The Rev D T Little, permission to officiate, diocese of York, to be Priest-in-charge of Bulmer and Welburn, same diocese.
The Rev J M MacGillivray, Assistant Curate of the Ascension, Hulme, diocese of Manchester, to be Priest-in-charge of St Agnes, Birch-in-Rusholme, same diocese.
The Rev K S Mason, Principal of Canterbury School of Ministry, diocese of Canterbury, to be also an Honorary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral, same diocese.
The Rev W C Massey, Vicar of St Mary, Alveley, and Priest-in-charge of St Andrew, Quatt, diocese of Hereford, to be Vicar of St Mary, Alveley, and St Andrew, Quatt, same diocese.
The Rev K F Middleton, Rector of St Mary Magdalen, Bridgnorth and Team Rector of Bridgnorth Team Ministry, diocese of Hereford, to be also Rector of St Mary Magdalen, Quatford (united to the Bridgnorth Team), same diocese.
The Rev N J Prior, Assistant Curate of All Saints and Martyrs, Langley, diocese of Manchester, to be Assistant Curate of St John with St Mark, Bury, same diocese.
The Rev D Pritchard, Assistant Curate of Kidlington, diocese of Oxford, to be Priest-in-charge of All Saints, Marcham, same diocese.
The Rev R P Thomas, Rector of All Saints with St Andrew, Chilcomb, with St Peter, Chesil, diocese of Winchester, to be also Winchester Diocesan Communications Officer.
The Rev B F Thompson, Priest-in-charge of St Dominic and Landulph, diocese of Truro, to be Priest-in-charge of St Newlyn East and Crantock, same diocese.
The Rev P C H A Trenchard, Curate of St Martin, Barton, Torquay, diocese of Exeter, to be Rector of Ashprington, Cornworthy and Dittisham, same diocese.
The Rev F E Turner, Vicar of St Michael, Sittingbourne, diocese of Canterbury, to be also an Honorary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral, same diocese.
The Rev P J Trendall, Vicar of St Mary with St Stephen, Hornsey Rise and Priest-in-charge of St Andrew, Whitehall Park, diocese of London, to be Team Rector of Walthamstow, St Mary with St Stephen, diocese of Chelmsford.
The Rev A J Webb, Assistant Curate of St Michael, Yeovil, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Priest-in-charge of Woolavington and of Cossington, same diocese.
The Rev P Webster, Vicar of Rawcliffe, diocese Sheffield, to be Vicar of Barrow-on-Humber, diocese of Lincoln.
The Rev D Whitworth, recently Chaplain of St Nicolas, Ankara, diocese of Europe to be Vicar of St Matthew's, Douglas Isle of Man, diocese of Sodor and Man.
The Rev S Winward, Vicar of St Thomas, Musbury, diocese of Blackburn, to be Rector of St Hilda, Old Trafford, diocese of Manchester.

Retirements and resignations
The Right Rev John K Cavell, Bishop of Southampton since 1972, is to retire on June 30. He has also resigned after 10 years as Bishop of HM Prisons.
Canon C C W Airne, Vicar of St Anne, Lydgate, diocese of Manchester, to retire on June 30.
The Rev H H Baker, Assistant Priest of Alnwick, diocese of Newcastle, to retire on June 30.
The Rev D T Cullum, Rector of Stanford Rivers, diocese of Chelmsford, to resign and retire on April 5.
The Rev E Carter, Vicar of St Thomas, Garstang, diocese of Blackburn, to retire on April 2.
The Rev V A B Harkness, Rector of Bishop Burton with Walkington, diocese of York, to retire on December 31.
Canon M M Hennell, Canon Residentiary of Manchester Cathedral, Canon Theologian and Director of Post-Ordination Training, diocese of Manchester, to retire in September.
The Rev P C Ford, Vicar of Gosfield and Rural Dean of Halstead and Coggeshall, diocese of Chelmsford, to resign and retire on July 20.
The Rev F G Payne: to retire from full-time work and SW Area Secretary for the Church's Ministry among the Jews on April 30. He will continue to do part-time deputation work for the society until July 31, 1986. Granted permission to officiate, diocese of Bath and Wells.
The Rev J W T Tuckey, Assistant Curate of Glastonbury Jurisdiction, diocese of Bath and Wells, to retire March 4, with permission to officiate, diocese of Bath and Wells.
The Rev E A Walker, Vicar of St George, Daubhill, diocese of Manchester, to retire June 30.

Other Appointments
Captain J Hotchin, Church Army, of the Manchester Inner city Project, diocese of Manchester, to work in the Ecumenical Team in Redditch, diocese of Worcester.
Miss D R Etchells, Principal of St John's College, Durham, with Cranmer Hall, to be Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Bath and Wells.
Miss Alison Webster is to succeed Miss Helen Morrice as Secretary to the Social Policy Committee of the General Synod's Board for Social Responsibility.





Sounding a hopeful note: Young musicians auditioning yesterday at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, on London's South Bank, for this year's National Festival of Music for Youth, to be held in July. From the top, musicians from the Cromwell Chamber Orchestra, Maidstone Youth Music Society Wind Band, and the Putney High School Orchestra (Photographs: Brian Harris).

OBITUARY

PROF DONALD TOWNEND

Work on gas combustion

A correspondent writes:

The death of Professor Donald Townend, CBE, on February 19 at the age of 86 marks the end of one of the most important chapters in the history of combustion research. At Imperial College in the late 1920s he wrote, in collaboration respectively with W. A. Bone and D. M. Newitt, two important books, *Flame and Combustion in Gases* and *Gaseous Reactions at High Pressures*.

These and published papers established the international reputation of the department, as was demonstrated by the fact that in 1932, of the 12 research students in the High Pressure Laboratory, two were Chinese, two Indian, one Swiss, one South African, one Canadian and one American.

The 1930s were a period of great progress in combustion research, and Townend published many papers in the proceedings of the Royal Society, all of them models of presentation. It was also the period of the great controversy between the contending exponents of the hydroxylation and chain-reaction theories of gaseous combustion which at the time generated considerable heat, and which Townend had a part in resolving.

In 1938 he become Livesey Professor of fuel Technology at Leeds University, and at the outbreak of war, Vice-Chancellor, a post he served with distinction. After the war he was lured away from academic life to become Director-General of the British Coal Utilisation Research Association from 1946 to 1962, and it was he who built it into one of the most successful and important of its kind.

He received worldwide recognition for his work, but remained quite unmoved by his achievements. Indeed he said that the success that gave him the greatest pleasure was when, though under age, he got himself into the RFC by his ability to make a concealed dovetail joint, though what this had to do with flying airplanes he never found out.

To his students "T" was a man who had got his priorities right, family first, work second and after that gardening and cricket. A good all-rounder himself, he was a devoted supporter of Essex, and he never missed a test match at Lords. All his students held him in high esteem, and all of them had reason to be grateful to him.

He was a past vice-president of the Institute of Energy and was appointed CBE in 1952.

MADAME WIESE NORBERG

A correspondent writes:

Madame Wiese Norberg, who died on February 19 in London, was well known in the entertainment world as a superb musician and teacher. For over 30 years she had been teaching voice production and had been influential in the careers of many notable artists in all branches of the profession.

To name but a few: Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, when she first came to this country to study singing, became a pupil of Madame Norberg; Lord and Lady Olivier both consulted her on vocal problems; actors with careers as diverse as Polly James and Stanley Baxter worked in her studio; Dana has publicly recognized that she owes her present career to Florence Norberg's help and guidance.

Madame Norberg was invited on two occasions to judge the "Sun Aria" competition in Australia and gave master classes there and in New York. She was given her own series on BBC television, in which she taught young people the basic rudiments of singing.

She came to this country from Scandinavia and, in the years before the war, she established herself as a singer-actress, broadcasting for the BBC and appearing in West End musicals. Her championship of the Sibelius songs brought her a recording contract with HMV.

Like many other artists, when the war came, she offered her services to ENSA and endured considerable hardship, travelling to some of the remoter parts of Britain to bring a few hours of joy and relaxation to the forces stationed there.

When she finally decided to devote herself to teaching singing, she brought to this much misunderstood profession a dedication to the pursuit of excellence which resulted in many of her pupils achieving success in opera houses and on concert platforms throughout the world.

MR E. L. HARGREAVES

Mr E. L. Hargreaves, Emeritus Fellow of Oriel College and a notable economist of his day died on February 20 at the age of 85.

Eric Lyde Hargreaves was born on October 13 1898 and educated at St Paul's School. After serving in the first world war in the ranks, and being wounded and taken prisoner, he went to Corpus Christi College, Oxford as a classical scholar and took a first in Greats in 1921. He then turned to the study of economics and obtained a PhD at London.

Economics had now become part of the new PPE Honours course in Oxford, and in 1925 Oriel College elected him a fellow; he was among the first economists to secure a tutorial appointment. He was Senior Tutor at Oriel from 1937 to 1956 and retired in 1963 to rooms near the College, where as an Emeritus Fellow continued to entertain old and new friends.

As an economist Hargreaves was chiefly interested in public finance and his most important work was a book on the *National Debt* in 1930. He also wrote a volume on *Civil Industry and Trade* in the official history of the civilian side of the Second World War, in collaboration with Mrs M. Gowing, having served in the Board of Trade during most of the war.

For many years he was secretary of the Oxford Political Economy Club.

CANON DAVID WATSON

The Rev A. C. Barker writes:

How anyone can write an obituary of David Watson and not mention the name of Christ is hard to imagine. Although I knew David only very slightly, I suppose I am one of many thousands of clergymen whose ministry has been deeply affected by one of the most outstanding Christians in any generation.

He was indeed, as you write, committed to the Church, but only after he had committed his whole life to Christ, a fact that was transparent to anyone who heard him preach or lead worship, let alone who knew him personally. Amid all the great success of his ministry at St Michael's and elsewhere, the thing that shone through his autobiography was first his humility, and then his great generosity of spirit, and finally to me the deep pain of one who had, in the words of St Paul, been crucifed with Christ.

David's pioneer work in York, where he so revolutionised the worship of his church, has given a freedom to me, and I am sure many others, to share this freedom in our own churches in a way that would not have been possible otherwise. Congregations have multiplied. Christians have found untold opportunities for service and ministry, and the offering of their gifts in the use of arts in worship has led to much "glory in the Church".

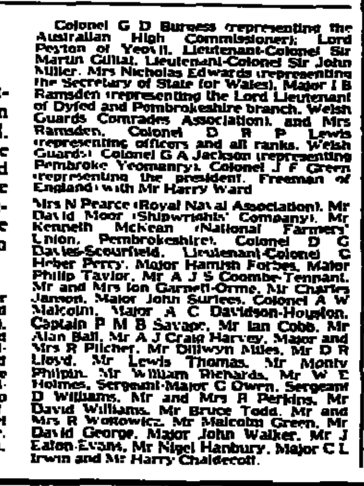
Sir Michael Williams, KCMG, who died on February 25 at the age of 72, was Minister to the Holy See from 1965 to 1970, and had previously been Ambassador to Guatemala 1962-63 and Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office 1963-65.

Oxford students swing to Alliance

Mr James Dickinson, aged 20, a third-year student reading politics, philosophy, and economics at Exeter College, has been elected president of Oxford University Students Union for the next academic year, in an election which saw Liberal/SDP Alliance candidates defeat Labour opposition for the union's top posts.

Latest wills

Sir Reginald James Bowker, of Mayfair, Central London, Ambassador to Austria from 1958 to 1961 and previously Ambassador to Burma from 1948 to 1950 and to Turkey from 1954 to 1958, left estate valued at £205,349 net.
Mr Charles Garfield Lott du Cann, of Surbiton, Surrey, barrister and author, left estate valued at £170,093 net. He died intestate.
Kathleen Ellen Vyall, of Lymington, Hampshire, left estate valued at £303,350 net. After personal legacies totalling £12,300, she left the residue to charity.
Dr Brendan Briscoe, of Ballsbridge, Dublin, late government stockbroker, left estate in England, Wales and the Irish Republic valued at £550,718 net.
Other estates include (*net*, before tax paid):
Curry, Mrs Jean Lancefield, of Torquay, Devon £190,675
Forbes, Mr Robert Bracey, of Chigwell, Essex, chartered surveyor £200,495
Hill, Mrs Olive May, of Poole, Dorset £369,132
Jagger, Mr Frank Glynn, of Criccieth, Gwynedd £415,702
Meredith Jones, Mr Alfred, of Henstridge, Somerset £222,380
Lamont, Mrs Edith Hakon, of Maidstone, Kent £359,570
Sullivan, Mr William James, of Loughton, Essex £371,089
Kingman, Mr Eric Mark, of Wincanton, Somerset £297,045



Mr George Cunningham: Library Association post

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Alan Donald to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia in succession to Mr Robert Brash, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.
Mr George Cunningham, the former SDP and Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury, to be chief executive of the Library Association in succession to Mr Keith Lawrey.

Legal
Mr John Herbert Wrenth to be a Circuit judge on the Western Circuit.

Government
Mr D. C. Wilson, to Senior Grade, as Assistant Under-Secretary of State (Asia/Far East), in succession to Mr A. E. Donald, supervising the Far Eastern, Hongkong, South Asian, South-east Asian and South Pacific departments.

Judge retires

Judge Sutcliffe, QC, has retired from the circuit bench (South-eastern).

Bridge

Tollemache Cup falls to London

London, who won the counties' championship last year after a gap of 17 years, were again in splendid form at the weekend, when they registered a convincing win by 6 victory points ahead of Yorkshire in the final of the English Bridge Union's Teams of Eight Championship for the Tollemache Cup. Played at Birmingham, the finals featured the counties that had qualified from five regional finals.
London Team: C Duckworth, R J O'Reilly, J Reardon, R J A. Butland, U Dourmoush, F To, I M Gardiner, D Byrne, J Niblett, D G W Price.
Scores: 1, London, 52; 2, Yorkshire, 48; 3, Equal third Middlesex, Hampshire and Isle of Wight, 42.

Gulf Leisure Bridge Tournament
The French pair N. Guyot and Y. Theiblin won the first Gulf Leisure Bridge Tournament held at Broome Park, Canterbury, over the weekend, by the enormous margin of 153 points, with Mr & Mrs G. C. H. Fox second.
Leading places: 1, N Guyot and Y Theiblin (France) 1,423; 2, Mr and Mrs G C H Fox (London) 1,270; 3, S Eginton and A Moller (North-west) 1,260; 4, Z Mahmoud and M Hoffman (London) 1,256.

The results of the Sobranie Challenge UK Inter-Club Duplicate Bridge Tournament are as follows:
Southern regional final: 1, Bracknell Bridge Club, 92; 2, Burlington Bridge Club, 86
Wales and South-western regional final: 1, Torquay Bridge Club, 98; 2, *Langport Bridge Club*, 83.

Those teams will go to the grand final at the Park Lane Hotel on May 12 and 13 to compete for the national title.

The King's School, Worcester

The following elections have been made:
King's Scholarships: J. P. Bury (Winterfold House), J. P. B. Jones (Hawford Lodge), G. P. Whitlock (Wells House).
Queen's Scholarship: Clare E. Hurle (King's School).
Exhibitions: R. P. Dow (Bromsgrove Junior School), W. R. Harris (Winterfold House), D. M. Lowe (Winterfold House).
Music: Scholarship – J. A. Smith (King's School).
Exhibitions: J. M. Davis (King's School), S. D. Lea (Blackminster Middle School).

Durham High School

The main centenary celebrations at which all friends of Durham High School will be welcome, begin on May 5 with a service in Durham Cathedral. A programme of events is available on request.

Spring Ball

The 1984 Spring Ball will take place on Thursday, March 22, at the Inter-Continental Hotel, in aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children and of the Jinja Groups Trust.

University news

Cambridge
College elections
CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE: Langdon-Brown Entrance Exhibition in natural sciences and a choral exhibition: A C W Duncan, Dulwich College, for 1984 entry.
DOWNING COLLEGE: Graham Robertson Research Fellowship for three years from October 1, 1984: M O Budny, BA (Vassar College), MA (Lond), research fellowship for three years from October 1 1984: G I Evan, MA (Oxon), PhD. Scholarships: W L Yiu, Wah Yan College, Hongkong, in natural sciences for medicine (Whitby); G Zagni, Wells Cathedral School, organ scholarship.
EMMANUEL COLLEGE: Rolls-Royce Research Fellowship for three years from October 1, 1984: S P Timothy, BA, PhD, former scholar of St John's College: research fellowships for three years from October 1, 1984: S P Oakley, BA, former scholar of Queens' College, P J Harrison, former scholar of Emmanuel College, W D J Kirk, BA, former scholar of Emmanuel College
FITZWILLIAM COLLEGE: Fellowship in Class A from April 1, 1984: Dr M J Sharp, university assistant lecturer in geography. R H Clough exhibitions – Law: P J Hall, Nottingham HS; medicine, M P Wise, RGS High Wycombe; mathematics R A B Hibbs, RGS Newcastle upon Tyne. Clothworkers' Exhibition – Medicine: M J R Jenner, Tonbridge School.
GIRTON COLLEGE: Scholarship – Medicine: M Brett, Magdalene College School, Oxford. Exhibitions – Engineering: D J Master, St Paul's School, London, and M P Walker, Stamford School.
KING'S COLLEGE: Appointed as Chaplain: The Rev S R Coles, MA (Oxon), BA (Leeds).
ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE: Research fellowships for three years from October 1, 1984: R Wardy, BA, S M Hart, BA, D G Davies, BA.
SELWYN COLLEGE: Keasbey Fellowship in American studies from October 1 1984: D R Nicholls, MA, St John's College.
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE: Overseas visiting fellowship for one year from October 1, 1984: Professor J A Sabloff, BA, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. Overseas visiting scholarships, Michaelmas Term, 1984: P Wojtaszczyk, MSc, PhD, lecturer in mathematics, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw; Easter Term: L Kryzaniak, MA, PhD, associate professor and director general, Archaeological Museum, Poznan; R O Williams, BA, PhD, senior scientist, department of biochemistry, University of Nairobi.

Instrumental awards
Elected for entry in October, 1984:
Clare College: P A Jourdan, Haberdashers' Aske's School, Elstree, violin, to read music.
St Catharine's College: N J Kinglake, Chatham's School of Music, cello, to read music.
Selwyn College: J J Smith, Dover GS for Girls, viola, to read music.

Glasgow
Dr Thomas C. Richardson, head of English at Campbell University, North Carolina, has been appointed the first *Glasgow Herald* Visiting Fellow in Scottish literature.

Nottingham
Dr Mervyn Keith Lewis, reader in economics at Adelaide University, Australia, to be Midland Bank Professor of Money and Banking

Open
Sir Kenneth Berrill has been appointed Pro-Chancellor of the university's council and Mr Oliver Thompson has been appointed treasurer.
Professor David Murray has been appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor (academic: courses and research), in succession to Professor Len Haynes.
Other appointments:
Professor John Sparkes to be director of the scientific, technical and professional updating (SATUP) programme. [illegible] University, to a second chair in Biology.

Memorial service

Lieutenant-Colonel J H V Higgon
A memorial service for Lieutenant-Colonel John Henry Victor Higgon was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, yesterday. The Rev Neville Thomas officiated and the Rev V R D Hellaby read the lesson. Father Joseph Coombe-Tennant, OSB, who represented the Abbot of Downside, gave an address.

Among those present were:
Mrs Higgon (widow), Mr and Mrs Peter Higgon (son and daughter-in-law), Dr and Mrs R W Bowen (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs M Higgon (daughter-in-law), Mr Roland Bowen and Mr Robert Higgon (grandchildren), Mr Paul Lucas, Mrs S Hewitt and Mrs D Llewellin (stepchildren), Miss Jane Hewitt and Mr Michael Hewitt (stepgrandchildren), Mr Gilbert Mersh, Mr Hugo Marsh, Mrs P Withers, Mrs F Hill, Lieutenant-Colonel R C Rose Price, Colonel and Mrs Charles Sullivan, Mrs B Whitmore, Mr Ian Lea, Mrs M Tyler, Mr R Abraham, Mr Mervyn Strand, Dr and Mrs J J Bowen

Colonel G D Burgess (representing the Australian High Commissioner); Lord Pexton of Yeovil, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller, Mrs Nicholas Edwards (representing the Secretary of State for Wales), Major I B Ramsden (representing the Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed and Pembrokeshire branch, Welsh Guards Comrades Association), and Mrs Ramsden, Colonel D R P Lewis (representing officers and all ranks, Welsh Guards), Colonel G A Jackson (representing Pembroke Yeomanry), Colonel J F Green (representing the president, Freeman of England) with Mr Harry Ward

Mrs N Pearce (Royal Naval Association), Mr David Moor (Shipwrights' Company), Mr Kenneth McKean (National Farmers' Union, Pembrokeshire), Colonel D G Davies-Scourfield, Lieutenant-Colonel C Heber Percy, Major Hamish Forbes, Major Philip Taylor, Mr A J S Coombe-Tennant, Mr and Mrs Ion Garnett-Orme, Mr Charles Janson, Major John Surtees, Colonel A W Malcolm, Major A C Davidson-Houston, Captain P M B Savage, Mr Ian Cobb, Mr Alan Ball, Mr A J Craig Harvey, Major and Mrs R Pilcher, Mr Dillwyn Miles, Mr D R Lloyd, Mr Lewis Thomas, Mr Monty Philipin, Mr William Richards, Mr W E Holmes, Sergeant-Major C Owen, Sergeant D Williams, Mr and Mrs R Perkins, Mr David Williams, Mr Bruce Todd, Mr and Mrs R Wottowicz, Mr Malcolm Green, Mr David George, Major John Walker, Mr J Eaton-Evans, Mr Nigel Hanbury, Major C L Irwin and Mr Harry Chaldecott.

Toynbee ideals recalled at settlement centenary

By Robin Young

The Lord Mayor of London, Lord Tonypandy and Mr John Profumo, will be the speakers at a Mansion House luncheon today to celebrate the centenary of the Universities Settlement in East London, Toynbee Hall.

Founded in Commercial Street, Whitechapel, on Christmas Eve 1884, Toynbee Hall was the culmination of an idea proposed by Canon Samuel Barnett the previous year. Barnett became the first warden and the settlement was named after the nineteenth-century social philosopher, Arnold Toynbee.

Its example inspired a worldwide movement of residential settlements, living and working in deprived areas in countries as diverse as Japan, Canada and Finland.

In the words of Mr John Profumo, its present chairman and a former minister, Toynbee Hall became a "social workshop" pioneering such projects as free legal advice, citizens' advice bureaux, youth hostels, the Workers' Educational Association, the Child Poverty Action Group, Victims Support Scheme, and many other independent organizations.

Former Toynbee Hall residents or associates include Clement Attlee, William Beveridge, Cosmo Lang, Pierre de Coubertin, Sir Huw Weldon, R. H. Tawney, and Lord Young of Dartington.

Of the present staff of 160, more than 60 are volunteers, and more than 40 separate organizations and schemes are run from Toynbee itself. One of the largest, Toynbee Housing Association, will be opening this year a £5m village-style housing development next to the hall. The hall at present serves as a cultural and educational centre for the local community which is largely composed of Bengalis and other ethnic minority people.

A centenary appeal for £1m has been launched to fund initiatives in employment and training, to open workshops and to repossess the Toybnee College buildings for "second chance" education. So far £250,000 has been raised.

Other events planned for its centenary celebrations include the publication of a centenary book by Lord Briggs and Anne Macartney; a visit by the Prince of Wales in July, and the launch of a Toynbee Hall rose at the Chelsea Flower Show in May.

Science report

Steroid shows promise for male Pill

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Most interest in anabolic steroids has concentrated on the sensational aspect of their use by athletes and sportsmen to promote muscle growth and strength. Yet some of them have been in clinical use for many years in less publicized branches of medicine.

Results of a new research project suggest that one member of the anabolic steroid family would make an ideal male contraceptive pill. Numerous investigations of naturally occuring and synthetic compounds have hitherto failed to reveal a reversible chemical method of fertility control for men.

The new findings reported in the present issue of the *Lancet* come from experiments on a group of healthy men aged between 21 and 25. All of them had stable sexual relations during the trial. The substance they tested, called 19– nortestosterone, was administered by intramuscular injection.

Five volunteers were involved in the project conducted by Professor E. Nieschlag and Dr T. Schurmeyer, Dr L. Belkien, and Dr U. A. Knuth at the University Women's Hospital, in Munster, West Germany.

They were given doses of the steroid of 100 milligrams a week for three weeks, followed by 200 milligrams a week for a further 10 weeks. Azoospermia (absence of sperm) occurred seven to thirteen weeks after the start of treatment and persisted for four to fourteen weeks without any side-effects to be found in laboratory analyses of blood serum. In addition, the individuals were examined physically. Their body weight and testicle and prostate size were also recorded.

The doctors report surprise that the effects of 19-nortestosterone on suppressing the production of sperm had not been recognized earlier, since it has been used in clinical medicine and by some athletes for 20 years without any side effects.

The amounts used for the trials were higher than those administered for therapeutic purposes but lower than those injected into athletes on the assumption, which the doctors believe is misplaced, that the drug will improve performance in competition.

Suppression of sperm production is apparently caused because the steroid halts the production by the pituitary gland of gonadotropin which, as its name implies, is a substance that stimulates the gonads. There is also reduction in the blood of the hormone which is responsible for the sex drive of men. That is the hormone testosterone.

None of the individuals reported any loss of libido or potency, and there were no adverse signs in the physical and biochemical analyses to indicate changes. The opinion of their sexual partners were also taken into account.

The subjects reverted to normal over different periods. Three of them had recoverded their level of sperm count, and, more important, motility, morphology, and seminal fructose, within 16 weeks. The other two men took 24 weeks.

During the trial the size of the testicles of the individuals was smaller, but neither the subjects nor their partners noticed the marginal reduction as measured by orchidometer.

The doctors maintain that the substance is 10 times more efficient as a contraceptive than other mixtures of hormones tested over the past 20 years. In addition to providing fertility control in one molecule, its long history, which is uneventful in terms of side effects, renders it a good candidate for a male pill.

The Lancet, no 8374, vol 1, 1984.

● Last chance to win a micro: Page 20 COMPUTER HORIZONS ● Two men to match Japan: Page 19

Chilling prospect behind the checkout

The thought of British Telecom, the state-owned telecommuniction giant, in partnership with IBM, the dominant force in computer manufacture and design, is a chilling one. It is even more chilling when one considers that British Telecom is soon to move into the private sector and have less public accountability than it does at present.

The proposed partnership is chilling as is the project. That is, to design an electonic money transfer system to be used by retailers all over the country in an effort to eliminate a substantial proportion of the paper needed by banks, companies and individuals when making payments.

The idea has been driven by the banks which are keen on minimising the time and cost of processing money. They have been one of the principal forces behind the consumer responding to high technology because of the plethora of automatic tellers which now populate the high streets of Britain. The statistics are staggering and are a monument to the determination of the banking fraternity who find the cost of processing a cheque, currently estimated to be about 50 pence, unacceptably high. More than 10 million cards for automatic tellers are currently in use.

But the role played by British Telecom, which will have its majority shareholding in the private sector by the 1986 proposed deadline for the retailing pilot scheme, will disturb many politicians from both sides of the House of Commons. The Telecommunications Bill which is currently making its way through parliament will create a private company out of the state-owned corporation and enpower the government to dispose of it.

It is the declared intention of the government that the disposal will begin this autumn. That will take place in one tranche assuming the proper response to the sale. Fifty one per cent of the corporation will then be in private hands.

Whatever happened to the promises of the Government that the telecommunications would be liberalised in Britain? Mercury has been given a licence to operate in competition with British Telecom but that position is to be protected for the next seven years, according to government policy. Even in full flight, and Mercury is far from that stage at the moment, the privately-owned telecommunications group will find it difficult to compete against Telecom's established networks. What hope has any competitor in the future which finds BT is not only the dominant force in telephony but that it also controls network transferring electronically the bulk of money accruing from retailing?

The idea of such a network is good in theory since the cost of processing money is clearly reflected in the price of money itself and the goods that are subsequently bought. Last year about 2,500 million cheques were processed by the clearing banks and a futher 100 million pieces of paper by the credit/payment card holders. The mountain of paper must be eliminated, the banks believe.

A study group was set up several years ago by the banks* and its work is about to come to fruition. That will mean a contract being awarded IBM and British Telecom jointly for the design of the national cashless shopping network.

At each outlet there will be an electronic point of sale (EPOS) terminal. The girl at the checkout will press buttons according to a predetermined code which will fully define the sale and the item sold. An alternative would be to pass the item, which is coded with some form of bar code, underneath a laser, either handheld or fixed to the checkout. Either way each sale will be communicated to the retailer's own computer and the reordering process begins.

THE WEEK

Bill Johnstone

In turn the retailer's equipment will communicate with the customer's and retailer's banks to ensure a swift transfer of the monies resulting from the purchases.

No contract has yet been awarded to either British Telecom or IBM although it appears that it is but a formality. In theory once the network is designed any supplier can bid for the relevant equipment contract but British Telecom will, as the network provider, be in an unassailable position as a supplier of equipment to be attached to the network.

A study completed about a year ago by Retail Management Development Programme (RMDP) of Brighton identified the EPOS area as having enormous commercial potential. It had concluded that such networks would grow eightfold between 1982 and 1986. EPOS systems are being used and developed by more than 60 groups at present. They will grow to 200 by the end of the year, the principal users being national retailers and supermarket chains.

The Brighton group has been commissioned again by British Telecom to test the market further and provide the data on which the network design will be based.

In a letter to retailers RMDP says: "British Telecom is investigating the possibility of entering the EPOS market as a direct competitor. ...... British Telecom's entry could have a major impact on the EPOS market, affecting systems design and price structures radically. The fact that British Telecom is a major telecommunications supplier in the country and a supplier of other information technology equipment underlines this".

There are many supporters of privatisation that are only too well aware of the power of British Telecom and its influence on the telecommunications industry, yet wince at the growth of the corporation in the last two years. Office equipment, word processors, microcomputers and cable television have all been embraced by British Telecom, which as a private company will become one of the most potent independent forces in the British electronics industry. Now the company is to add electronic point of sale to its portfolio.

The supporters of the privatisation programme have constantly claimed that competition will constrain British Telecom. But the corporation, as the guardian of the national network, will continue for some time, to allocate major equipment contracts. In the private sector it will continue to do so and probably more frequently than it does at present, if its current growth is any measure. No company, British or otherwise, can afford to ignore its prominence nor run foul of it by engaging in direct competition. Is that fair or even effective competition?

Competition can be a constraining force. There is none on any significant scale either in the provision of equipment or in the supply of telecommunication circuits despite the political rhetoric to the contrary.

If the EPOS project of British Telecom-another example of its exponential growth-does not disturb the supporters of free enterprise and their political opponents, then it should.

***TSB, Co-Op, National Giro, Bank of England, Barclays, Coutts, Lloyds, Midlands, Natwest, Williams & Glynn, Clydesdale, Bank of Scotland and Royal Bank of Scotland.**


Sarah King

Randy Goldfield . . . long time to go

Offices 'not ready to go paperless'

By Rory Johnston

Much-trumpeted schemes for office automation have not fulfilled their promise because the users are just not ready for them, and because firms expect a cost-payback over too short a time scale. Those were two of the sobering diagnoses presented by consultants at the Info '84 conference in London last week.

Randy Goldfield, president of the Omni Group consulting firm in New York and a well-known figure on the American office automation scene, said that despite the crudeness of present-day tools for increasing the productivity of managers and professionals, the potential users are so far behind in their computer-literacy that it will be five to seven years before they are able to use existing aids comfortably.

It is widely acknowledged that the real potential for office automation is in improving the productivity of highly paid managers and professionals, rather than secretaries who make up only a small part of total costs.

However reasonable this sounds, Bill Lattimer of Arthur Andersen told the Info conference, it presents major problems in cost-justification. If you save 10 per cent of an executive's time, what does he do with that time saved? It is not very likely that he will earn an extra 10 per cent for the firm in that time.

It is also unlikely that the firm could do with 10 per cent fewer executives.

Considerations such as these are dampening many companies' enthusiasm for office automation, Lattimer said. Other factors include a need to cost-justify over a short time scale, lack of standards and little prospect for these in the near future and the risk involved.

Goldfield cited figures from a survey of 834 companies her firm has just carried out, showing that well over half of the businesses already have strategies for office automation and many more expect to be 1985. Similar large majorities insist on cost-justification for office automation and most firms see their main concern as compatibility, with reducing staff the least important of their aims.

She described the efforts of the Alliance Insurance Company in Philadelphia to make its offices paperless. The slogan "Paper-free by '83" was adopted – needless to say it was not achieved. The company would have "paperless-office days", during which no one was allowed to use paper at all. The result, Goldfield related, was chaos.

In another firm the managing director went around late one night and threw away everybody's card indexes. There was much frantic scrabbling in the dustbins the next morning.

Nonetheless, progress was being made, Goldfield asserted. The Alliance now sends virtually no paper between its head office and its branches, all of this being reorganized into electronic mail.

One danger she cited was that of over-enthusiastic top executives who insisted on being provided with automation for their own use. "They shouldn't ask for it," Goldberg said, "because we just do not know yet how to provide effective tools for these people."

Software links with US

■ A software shop in London's microcomputer hardware, business and games quarter off the Tottenham Court Road is to begin a unique import-export business devoted to educational software.

The Pilot Software shop has linked up with Soft-Kat, America's biggest distributor of what are dubbed "personal development packages," by the micro-literati over there. "We'll bring several hundred new educational titles into Britain for the first time," said Pilot's manager Kelvin Robinson.

A two-way flow of software follows from the deal: US titles largely for the Commodore 64 and priced anywhere from £8 to £40 coming into Britain; specially written or re-written UK titles for the popular US machines finding their way to that huge market for the first time.

Soft-Kat was one of the first American distributors to begin collecting educational titles, notching up 14 million dollar sales last year. Pilot will distribute to the major High Street chains, all of whom have experience in sales of educational software.

■ W. H. Smith is taking a big stride in the distribution of business software following a link up with Softeam, possibly the largest distributor of business software in the US. The new venture, aimed primarily at computer dealers, will trade by the name of WHS Softeam and provide a next day nationwide delivery service for a large range of business software drawn mainly from Softeam's US catalogue. WHS Softeam will be providing dealers with full technical support and back-up services.

■ Just launched: the more strenuous video game – an exercise bike linked to a screen. The faster you pedal, he faster you can escape from a "red monster" chasing you through a maze on the screen. By pressing a button on either side of the handlebars you can plan your progress on the screen.

The game links a PAC–MAN video game ot a conventional static exercise bike. The video/exercise has been developed by Maidenhead based systems builders Micro Scope, the first company to open an office at the new Warwick University Science Park.

Mr Tony Waddington who developed the new project, said: "We are now working on a kit so that you can use your own exercise bike linked to your own micro computer by a game programme."



■ With the growing popularity of robotics, as a spin-off from computers, the BBC is launching a new series devoted to the subject. "Computers in Control" is a five-part series to be presented by Ian McNaught-Davis and John Coll, familiar faces to viewers of the earlier "Making the Most of the Micro" shows.

There will be practical demonstrations using the ubiquitous BBC micro to control a variety of systems such as sensors, solenoids and even a ventriloquist's dummy! The software used during each programme will be available through the BBC Telesoftware Service on CEEFAX. Transmissions start this Friday, with two further repeats.

■ A new system for learning foreign languages by computer was launched last week. It is different from the traditional technique of listening and repeating used by language laboratories and schools.

The system has been designed for anyone who needs to learn the basis of a language quickly. For example, the Spanish for "bread" is "pan". The new computer project links these words together by asking the student to imagine a large pan full of bread and fixes this image in his mind.

The new language course has been developed by Dr Michael Gruneberg, a senior lecturer in psychology at University College, Swansea. The program has been launched by Acronsoft, the software publishing subsidiary of Acorn Computers. The courses are available in four languages: French, German, Spanish and Italian.

■ Cable TV will not only mean a wide choice of viewing, but through an offshoot of British Telecom, Cable Interactive Services, it will give subscribers access to a vast range of computer software.

In an agreement signed with cable operator Rediffusion, CIS will pipe the Mocronet 800 service to those subscribers who pay an additional £9.95 a month. For this a Sinclair Spectrum, joystick and modem will be proviced allowing the downloading of free software from the service.

Micronet was chosen by CIS to provide the expertise for its "Gamestar Project", an off-the-peg service available to cable operators.



'Crash once more and you're back on the pyramids'

■ With Scotland expecting to produce half of the UK output of semi-conductors this year, the Scottish Computer Show will provide a showcase for many of the high-tech products from Silicon Glen.

The first fully operational Motorola multi-user system will be one of the show's "firsts", with the Hewlett Packard HP150 touch screen machine pulling in the ususal crowds.

A new range of Trionics software for the ACT Apricot, will include recipe costing for caterers, pharmacy labelling for chemists and a bar stock control system.

The show opens at the Anderson Exhibition Centre and Albany Hotel, Glasgow, on March 13, for three days.

Contributors: Jane Walton, Keith Mason, Alan Lewis and Geoff Ellis.

Schnieder Trophy makes a comeback

By Frank Brown

Despite being one of the world's leading computer companies, Digital Equipment is worried about what it sees as its low-profile image in Britain.

To remedy the situation, the company has turned to the memory of a Frenchman, Jacques Schnieder, and sponsored a new air race to commemorate the famous series of Schnieder Trophy air races he initiated in 1912. These dominated the international air racing scene for almost 20 years until Britain won the coverted trophy outright in 1931.

The new event, called the Digital Schnieder Trophy race, is a handicap event open to piston-engined aircraft up to 12,000lb in weight, and has prize money of £10,000. It will be held on June 24, and will form part of the 1984 British air racing championship, which Digital is also sponsoring.

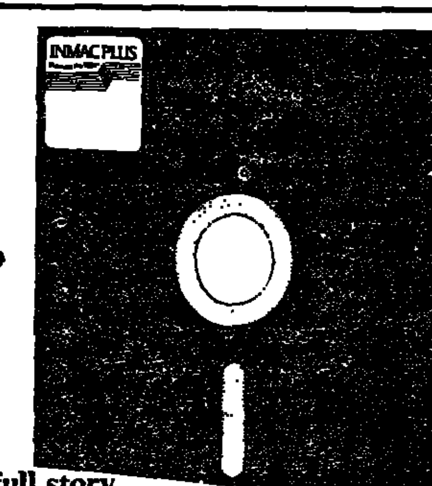
The race will be flown over the old Schnieder Trophy course around the Solent, starting from Bembridge on the Isle of Wight. It will cover a distance of 135 miles over three laps, the finishing line being off Ryde pier.

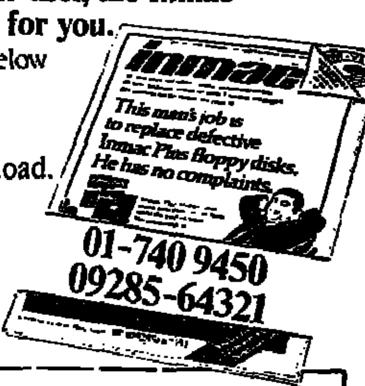
The race will be supervised by the Royal Aero Club, who will be using a Digital computer to handle all the paperwork and the processing of results. The winner will be presented with a replica of the original trophy and a Digital rainbow 100+ business computer, as well as the first prize of £2,500.

Announcing the sponsorship, the managing director of Digital UK, Geoff Shingles, said: "Despite our success in Britain, and the fact that Digital is the world's second largest manufacturer of cumputers, Digital's name is not well known in this country.

"We are therefore embarking on a number of projects this year to help raise our corporate visibility in all our market sectors, the major event being the re-establishment of a prestigious international air race in modern form – the Digital Schnieder Trophy."

The race has already attracted considerable interest. Inquiries have been received from the United States and Europe as well as from pilots in the United Kingdom, from some of Digital's own employees.





IT Town expands its service to business

Milton Keynes Development Corporation has merged its computer department into its information technology exchange (ITEX), the IT advisory centre for businessmen it set up just over a year ago, *writes Frank Brown.*

Michael Roberts, the Corporation's director of finance, has been appointed managing director of the exchange: and Andrew Laing, the Corporation's data processing manager, has taken over its day to day administration.

The move greatly increases the resources of the exchange, and is in line with the corporation's aims of making ITEX the national showplace for all aspects of information technology, and Milton Keynes the leasing centre in Europe for the practical applications of IT.

Roberts said: "The exchange has completed a successful first year in operation, and the time has come to broaden its activities. Information technology continues to develop at a rapid pace, and the demand for advice on how best to apply it will therefore increase – not only from businesses in the Milton Keynes area, but also from companies from all over the world who wish to set up here."

The exchange was the first of its kind to be established in the UK and enables businesses to obtain information on all aspects of information technology. Consultancy, training, and bureau services are available. In addition, a microsystems centre equipped with a variety of microcomputers and software offers visitors impartial advice on system selection and an opportunity to experiment with the systems on display.

The training resources provide a full range of courses from initial appreciation sessions to seminars on various IT topics. The integration of the corporation's computer department into the exchange increases the numbers of specialist staff from four to fourteen, and widens the range of skills and resources offered.

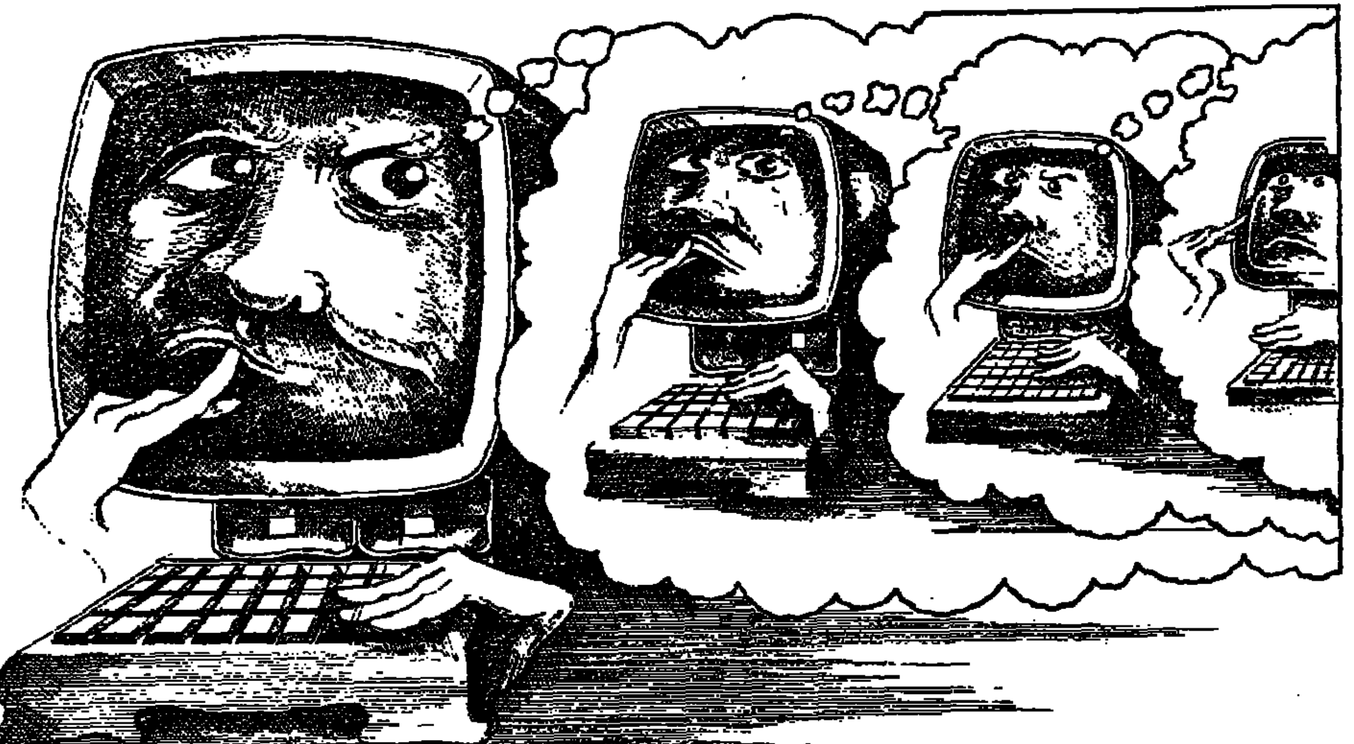
Free for all on the 'thinking machine'

By Rory Johnston

Arguments have been going on for many years about whether computers will ever really be able to think, whether they could have minds, and whether they pose a threat to the human race. For a long time this was entirely speculation, because the actual machines showed no attributes that could have justified the concern, but recently, technical advances have started to make the old questions seem far from remote.

So it is most timely that Channel 4 has chosen to broadcast two debates on the subject of Artificial Intelligence, the first tomorrow, the second on March 14, both on the late-night discussion programme Voices.

Artificial Intelligence is the general term for the sharp end of computing research, where work is being done on how to make computers see, hear, comprehend language, understand the world in depth, and reason. One might expect a debate on the subject to pit a new-style computer scientist against an old-style thinker such as a philosopher, but curiously Voices organized one debate between two philosophers and the other between two computer scientists. The result is entertaining, even raucous, television but frustrating in its failure to shed any real light on the issues.



Tomorrow night's programme entitled New minds for old, confronts Margaret Boden of the University of Sussex with John Searle from University of California, Berkeley.

Boden has established herself as a world-wide authority on AI as seen from the outside, while Searle, who is to be this year's Reith Lecturer on BBC Radio, has become best known for an elaborate proof he has devised to show that computers will never be able to "understand" things in any way approximating to the normal meaning of the word.

The matter is of real practical concern to the computer world, because it was reasoning similar to Searle's that led Sir James Lighthill to torpedo most of the funding in Britain for AI research in the early 1970s.

Searle's argument, which he puts forward with gusto in tomorrow's programme, postulates a man sitting in a room who is presented with bits of paper with Chinese writing on them. He has a large set of written instructions as to what to do in response to each Chinese symbol – he himself knows no Chinese.

Yet presumably he is able to hand back Chinese symbols in such a way as to make a Chinese person imagine he does understand Chinese. This is how a computer would do the same task, and, says Searle, since the man does not understand Chinese, neither does the computer.

But on reflection we realize that all Searle is saying is that neurons cannot speak English, which we all know. The man in the Chinese room is only acting as the processing unit of a computer, and that without the programme could never be thought to understand. It is the whole system, including the instructions, that understands. This refutation Boden is well aware of, but she puts it forward on Voices in such a polite, genteel manner that Searle is able to ignore it entirely.

Searle is, however, no religious mystic asserting the supremacy of the human soul. He says he thinks a genuine mind could be built out of silicon, but it would have to have intentionality, something which computers cannot have.

But why would it have to have intentionality? What for that matter *is* intentionality? And surely some computers do have it? No answers are given.

Searle seems to be making the mistake that has been very effectively skewered by Aaron Sloman, also of Sussex University, namely of thinking that entities either have minds or they don't. Sloman has shown that self-awareness in machines, plan-formation, the abilities to plan plans and generate goals, and so on have so many possible levels that it is not even true to say that there is a continuous spectrum running from minds to not-minds; instead there is a complex network of possible minds.

The motivation for Searle's concern is a worry that psychologists are taking computers as models for the workings of the human mind, something in which I agree with him entirely.

But I would say the proper conclusion is not that AI is a waste of time, but that psychology is a waste of time. In any case, computer people will surely be amused to see philosophers tying themselves in knots about the subject.

The second Voices debate is between Donald Michie of Edinburgh Univeristy, one of the world's leading researchers in AI, and Joseph Weizenbaum of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. One might imagine that two computer scientists would agree with each other, but in computing there are rival camps as in any field.

The debate in the programme centres around the arguments in a new book "The Creative Computer", written by Michie and myself, to be published by Allen Lane in October. This sets out to show that it is possible for computers to create things that are genuinely new – not "just what you fed in" – and that new techniques for synthesizing knowledge are going to enable computers to generate solutions to major human problems. Weizenbaum is dubious about this.

Perhaps the Voices programmes will stimulate more analysis of these very important issues, in a forum more suited to probing complex and highly technical subject matter than is an unstructured television debate.

The need to teach the computer common sense

● *From Mrs Katherine Edgcome, St Peter's Road, Coton, Cambridge:*

A number of recent articles in *The Times* have illustrated the arguments and misconceptions that still cluster round the idea of artificial intelligence and of expert systems. The latest contribution (February 17) raises some more interesting questions about what expert systems can and cannot do.

The task described (correcting, re-ordering and compressing a simple sentence) "should be feasible within the next 20 years" by computer. It is on the other hand, well within the capacity of an average 12-year-old: those who are dubious about the value of AI will be unimpressed.

However, even present-day expert systems can do things which are, in human terms, enormously harder than this. Apart from the information processing and number-crunching which computers have done for years, expert systems are used to diagnose rare diseases, predict the finding of oil, play chess at a very high level, and so on.

The difficulty of the "simple" task is surely twofold. It requires (in addition to spelling and grammar) common sense (carts don't sit on mats) and aesthetic sense (the original word-order is clumsy and displeasing to the ear).

Teaching computers common sense must be one of the more exciting and difficult tasks ahead. Within restricted areas it can probably be done, since it depends on the collating of relevant experience and on reasoning by analogy: it will be difficult to match human performance.

Teaching a computer aesthetic sense must surely be hopeless. Of course one can teach it rules: a computer could apply the three unities or the laws of sixteenth-century counterpoint. But an aesthetic sense can only exist in an entity capable of aesthetic response. Until a shiver can run down a computer's spine, I shall prefer my music, architecture and even English prose to be produced by people.

● *From Stephen Lowe-Watson, consultant, of Syntek, St Martin's Lane, London:*

In 'Why the computer has to be an idiot' Arnold Arnold explains why he believes that computers can never achieve artificial intelligence (A.I.) and criticises those who 'believe' in AI. The point is that the question of whether AI is possible is, at heart, a religious one. If intelligence is a divine gift then obviously the pursuit of AI is futile. However, if human intelligence results from the operation of a brain which is itself the product of natural selection (a completely mechanical process) then there cannot in principle be any reason why a computer could not equal or exceed the intelligence of its creator.

It may well be that those who talk of achieving AI in this century have underestimated the difficulty of the problem by many orders of magnitude. Nonetheless the assumption that it is impossible is a statement of religious belief, not scientific fact.

● *From Len Bottaci, Peter Elleby and Simon Murdoch, Division of Cybernetics, Brunel University:*

Verbal spaghetti, well known in ancient times, was regurgitated by Arnold Arnold. Happily we managed to break its fetters (even by ourselves) and so we have to agree with the article's conclusion that lack of proper guidance and supervision makes a fool. We look forward to the return of the All-Rational Non-Operational Logical Dictionary which was unfortunately damaged in the combinatorial explosion.

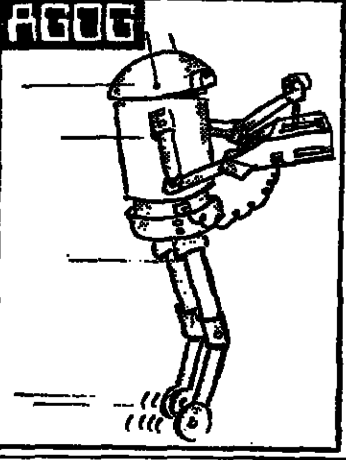
● *From M. J. Foskett, of Bethune Avenue, London W*

Attention has been on the minimal part computer education plays in schools today. Primary school children are now doing computer studies but on transfer to secondary school there seems to be no provision for them to continue this aspect of their education until they reach the fourth or fifth year.

However, one learns that a ten-year-old primary school boy has passed a City and Guilds computer examination, the youngest to have achieved this. Are children of this remarkable ability to be neglected in secondary schools?

It must be recognized that there will be more and more children now reaching a high standard at an early age. Is it not time that the public schools were recognizing this and making capital for this country's future by offering scholarships to children who are gifted in this very new technology. (Why is it that only music is worthy of a scholarship?).

Computer Appointments





UK Events

Education Software Fair, Dauntsey's School, West Lavington, Devizes, Wilts, March 2-3.

OEM Only Conference Hilton Hotel, London W1, March 7.

Computer Trade Show, Wembley Conference Centre, March 13-15.

Scottish Computer Conference, Holiday Inn, Glasgow, March 13-15.

The Second British Computer Society Jubilee Lecture, The Royal Society, London SW1, March 14.

Electron & BBC Micro User Show, New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, March 29-April 1.

Computer Aided Design, Met. Exhibition Hall, April 3-5.

Artificial Intelligence Seminar, City University, London, April 7-8.

Sir Frederic Osborn School Computer Fair, Sir Frederic Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City, April 8.

Compact Wales, Cardiff University, April 10-12.

A speedy computer cocktail

By Cindy Miles

Horst Gummer, German born, Heidelberg educated and with a lifetime in catering under his belt, reckons he has seen most kinds of deception his notoriously difficult trade has to offer.

His key to survival in the hotel and restaurant business, though it may not be the key to success, is for management to see and be seen. "You have to know not just how many bottles of spirits you have, but how much is in every bottle at any one time," he says. "And your staff have to know you know."

That kind of supervision is laborious, so Gummer, in tandem with Cara Consulting, a software house, has developed a computer program to ease the load. It has been introduced at the London Tara Hotel where Gummer is manager of the food and beverage side, and now the £3.5 million annual sales, which are his responsibility, together with many of the actions of his 160 staff are fully computerized.

Technically the program does not do anything which could not have been done manually, he says, but the difference is speed. It gives you the information fast enough for management to do something about the problems.

Typical is the difficulty caused by new staff. "I had a new supervisor," says Gummer. "After he joined I discovered that consumption of Pernod had gone from half a bottle a week to 2½ bottles. I challenged him and he admitted he had been helping himself."

This was before Gummer had his computer, but he says he was lucky. A lot of catering establishments would not pick up that kind of stock discrepancy for four to six weeks, by which time they would have lost a lot of money.

With his computerised system, he says, he could pick up such a variation within 24 hours of the weekly stock take, and move before those extra tipples became a habit," he says, "so people don't take advantage."

It is in the day-to-day control of business that the computer comes into its own. Gummer plans to list every single item of stock – in the case of spirits, the number of bottles of each brand, the cost to him, and the revenue he can expect when the contents of that bottle are sold in individual measures. Then he records what actually happens.

The benefits are obvious. He knows immediately if his yield falls below what it should be for a given amount of alcohol consumed. It could be that the bar staff are undercharging; it could be that they are helping themselves; it could be that they are using the wrong measure and are being over generous to the customer.

The great advantage on the food side when the system is fully developed will be rather different. Because the program will record the cost of all ingredients, every time the price of raw material rises, Gummer can see at a glance how much this adds to the cost of the dish in the restaurant.

So if the price of cream doubles overnight, he knows the next morning exactly how much extra he has to charge for Beef Stroganoff, or more likely, how much smaller he has to make the portion to maintain his profit margin.

He is already using this system to chart the price of cocktails – currently enjoying a revival of popularity. The Tara offers 60 and, says Gummer, it is hard enough to train the staff to remember what goes in each, without expecting them to know the cost of every ingredient. Again, the new system solves the problem.

All the ingredients are listed and the computer calculates how much should be charged for the total. And when lemon goes up in price, or when the Chancellor slaps on another levy, the new rates are available almost at the press of a button.

هكذا من الأصل

Two men to overtake the Japanese

Can two men overtake the entire national might of Japan, beat IBM and simultaneously lay the foundations for a new era in computing?

The answer, if it names the two men as father and son computer designers Gene and Carl Amdahl, is looking more and more like an unqualified yes.

Recalling that the Japanese Fifth Generation Computer project is a nationally resourced endeavour to produce an altered society, based on an as yet unbuilt computer, and remembering that the "pay-load" to be carried by that computer is user programming in ordinary language, it is easy to see how the Japanese arrived at the raw horsepower for the machine.

A little like how electricity in the mains is loosely described in volts, the Japanese used a single term, LIPS, for logical inferences per second, to describe the target output for the system.

The term LIPS, complex though it is, carries an implication of staggering complexity in relation to the system that will output in terms of LIPS.

To do one LIP, in a ear, never mind in one second, the computer driving it has to take spoken English as the input, convert that into computer machine code, call down both a programming and subject data base, write its own program for that particular request, find the data for the program to operate on, and out put the conclusion in common English.

When the Japanese launched their search for such a machine as this in 1980, not only had no such device every been specified before outside the realms of science fiction, but the raw componetry did not exist either.



Gene and Carl Amdahl. . . father and son team

Kevin Cahill reports on the Fifth Generation

New technologies in software, hardware and semiconductor chips were needed at all levels, and it quickly became obvious to the Japanese, with so far poorly recognized assistance from Philip Treleaven of Newcastle University, that the semiconductor chips in the machine would each have to carry over one million components if the early main processors were not to be impossibly large.

The first two years of research, in Japan for the Fifth Generation computer have also pointed towards the need for a single conventional computer, known as a Von Neumann processor, after the Hungarian physicist who laid down the principle according to which most computers, including the ubiquitous micro, work. This processor would have run at around 100 million instructions per second, five times faster that the biggest current machine from IBM.

In a close relationship with the serial processor, would be a non serial processor, running at the equivalent of 10,000 million instructions per second.

The Japanese have allowed themselves 10 years to reach those specifications, but anticipate the first Fith Generation type machines around 1987/1988.

Which is where the Amdahls and their Trilogy Corporation come back into the picture. Working from a completely different angle to the Japanses, Dr Gene Amdahl, in order to increase speed in the machine he is building lengths by shortening circuit and in order to achieve manufacturing economies that would enable him to build his devices cheaper than IBM, has created a chip which measures 3x3 and which contains well in excess of 1.5 million discrete components on its surface.

According to Dr Gene, 30 of those super chips have been built so far, using equipment specially designed for the task, and which has cost more than 50 million dollars to buy.

Conventional chips, most of which carry no more than 50,000 to 100,000 components, are made 100 to a wafer of silicon. Dr Gene's chip is created using a whole wafer, with yields (ie usable chips), that are the equivalent to those obtained with conventional chips, meaning that there is little 'chip for chip' saving using his use methods so far.

Where the savings come, and they are of the order of 3 magnitudes over current costs according to Dr Gene, is in the elimination of huge printed circuit board layers and interconnects between chips, sometimes as many as 14 layers thick, which characterise current mainframe structures in IBM machines.

In gambling terms Honeywell, the fifth ranking computer company in the US, invested 'blind' in Dr Gene's company Trilogy in 1980, when the first chip was still two years away. During 1983, as the first prototype chips emerged from the super clean, robotic 'clinic' in which they are created, engineers from the No 2 US computer company DEC, following similar studies by Sperry engineers, reported positively to their managements and both companies invested in Trilogy.

The cash that could flow from chips

DEC, as well as investing in Trilogy Corporation, have licensed the Trilogy chip technology for use in their own products. The company has also embarked on its next computer range, successor to the VAX minicomputer, using Trilogy technology. More than that, DEC has also taken an option to build a chip factory with Trilogy in California before the end of this year.

Now that it looks as if a substantial part of the Trilogy income will come from chips, as opposed to the mainframe computer which the company was set up to build, it is fascinating to hear Dr Gene acknowledge that he had not forseen this eventuality. "Up to 50 per cent of Trilogy's revenues could come from chips", he notes.

But is his chip the Fifth Generation foundation stone it looks like? What about the Inmos transputer?

"The Trilogy chip is designed to be part of a very high performance computer. It is not intended to be used in the same way as the Transputer", Dr Gene says.

The Fifth Generation project Dr Gene sees as a determined bid by the Japanese, not to achieve domination of the world computer industry, but to break the stranglehold on the heart of the industry currently held by IBM.

In this objective the Amdahls and the Japanese share a passionately held common viewpoint. This is that IBM dominance has two serious effects on the computer world.

Firstly, its market dominance makes it the de facto standard, a position which enables IBM to exercise virtual control over world computer markets.

Secondly IBM's position means that it is uneconomic for other producers to engage in the creation of new mainframe designs.

Not only that, it also means that IBM has a huge measure of the world's limited pool of computer architects, and in the end the company produces only one new mainframe every five years, implying that all – about 60% of world potential – other designs produced within the company are rejected.

On these matters Dr Gene is an authorty. In 1960, Tom Wetson, then chief executive of IBM, bet the entire company's future on the success of the mainframe that Dr Gene had designed and was building for the company. His bet proved the most decisive move ever made by a computer company.

The machine's architecture, – that is to say the principles according to which the machine performs its tasks – remain virtually unchanged to this day in terms of current IBM mainframes.

This is known as compatability, the constraint whereby successive machines must run programmes written for their predecessors, and is the defining characteristic of the new mainframe which Trilogy had currently in the engineering prototype stage.

Next: Veneration by the Japanese.

BBC micro deal on Australian TV

By Paul Walton

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation is to receive a royalty on sales of the BBC microcomputer in Australia in return for screening the BBC computer literacy series on "prime time" television for March 1. The deal marks the start of an export drive by Acorn Computers, which designed and now markets the machine.

The ABC is understood to have negotiated a ten per cent royalty, or around £40 for each British Broadcasting Corporation microcomputer (as they must be described outside of the UK) sold. Acorn's British sales have reached 250,000 since 1982.

This royalty is comparable with that which the BBC receives from Acorn Computers. However, the ABC will be paid its royalty not by Acorn but by the Cambridge-based firms Australian distributor, Barson Computers in Melbourne.

It is only the second such deal where a television company benefits directly by promoting the BBC series and its accompanying microcomputer.

When Acorn launched the BBC micro in America last year it is reputed to have paid the National Broadcasting Corporation there nearly a million dollars to screen the BBC series. It now claims to be "inundated" with orders from the US to the tune of 50 million dollars.

Mr Bob Bayham, managing director of Acorn International, said "In Australia, Barson Computers decided that they could afford to pay the ABC a royalty for prime time television showings of the BBC's computer literacy series.

"They're sure that this will result in a considerable increase in sales, and hence their profits, as has been our experience in America when the programmes were shown in the evenings rather than during the schools programmes during the day. It is the best kind of advertising you can get."

Acorn will also begin its first ever British TV advertising campaign next month, extolling the business as well as the educational uses of its BBC microcomputer. The company will spend around £250,000 on such publicity this year.

Mr Bayham said that Acorn will also be greeting a delegation from the Indian Government in March. It will compromise representatives of the Government-backed firm which is to assemble the BBC microcomputers in India, and of the Indian Broadcasting Authority which also wants to screen the BBC TV series.

Acorn has made contact with the Chineses authorities, who are also looking for an educational microcomputer and accompanying teaching materials, but Bayham said that prospective orders with the People's Republic "are still some way off."

Acorn is just beginning to take export inititatives in Italy, Sweden and Spain, whose Government's are also interested in mounting computer literacy programmes in their schools.

Computer Appointments

Last chance to compete for a micro

THE TIMES

National Microcomputer Challenge

All entries must be accompanied by 12 differently dated mastheads from the front of the Times and also by this form completed in full and signed where required. Entries must be despatched to arrive at the competition address below by FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1984.

To: The Times National Microcomputer Challenge, 43 Bedford Row, London WC99

FULL NAME OF ENTRANT
Mr/Mrs/Ms..

OCCUPATION..AGE..........

ADDRESS..

....

....

TELEPHONE Daytime....................Evening..........................

Please complete this section if your are representing a club, school or other organized group, or will be helped by a sponsor in the preparation of your entry.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

....

NAME OF SENIOR PERSON RESPONSIBLE (eg Club Chairman, Teacher, Director)

Mr/Mrs/Ms..

ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION (or person responsible)

....

....

....

TELEPHONE Daytime....................Evening..........................

Declaration: I hereby agree to abide by the Rules of the Times Microcomputer Challenge. I declare that the material entered is original material devised by the entrant(s) and has not been published, displayed or demonstrated elsewhere. As such it will in no way violate any copyright existing before, on or after the competition date.

SIGNATURE OF ENTRANT

....DATE..........................

SIGNATURE OF OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE (as named above)

....DATE..........................

Please note: If the entrant is entering as an individual and is aged under 18 at time of signature, this form must be countersigned by a parent or guardian.

This week is the last opportunity to enter the National Microcomputer Challenge, which is open to all readers of *The Times*. Closing date for entries is Friday March 2.

The aim of the competition is to find the best original use of a microcomputer for a socially useful purpose, such as a novel computer program or an innovative use of a computer peripheral. Ideas may involve any type of microcomputer.

The competition will be in two stages – regional and national. All the entrants need to do at the first stage is to submit in no more than 1,000 words a proposal describing the project and its benefits and ensure that the entry is accompanied by 12 differently dated mastheads from the front of *The Times* – that is, the title at the top of Page One with the date below it.

Judging will take place in 10 regions and the winner in each region will receive a BBC Microcomputer Model B, provided by Acorn Computers. There will be a second prize of a £50 W. H. Smith voucher and a £30 voucher for third prize.



The Department of Trade and Industry has agreed to host the ten judging sessions at its regional offices. Other judges will be nominated by the British Computer Society and Acorn Computers.

The second stage will be the national final in which the ten regional winners will be asked to demonstrate their ability to put their proposals into practice, making use of a microcomputer. It is emphasized that entrants will not, for example, be expected to provide a complete professional program or working model, but only to give some evidence of the practicability of their original idea.

The national judging and prizegiving will take place on April 18 as part of the London Computer Festival and the results published in *Computer Horizons* on May 1.

You may enter as an individual or as a representative of a project group for a club, school, college or company. If you represent a group, you will be required to provide the name of the person responsible for the group. The prizes, therefore, may be won by an individual or on behalf of a group.

As a guide to those still seeking a purpose for their entries, there are many opportunities, for instance, for helping the handicapped.

Complete details of the competition and further entry forms may be obtained at W. H. Smith shops selling computers and software, or in writing from the competition address: The Times National Computer Challenge, 43 Bedford Row, London WC99.



Ten BBC micros to be won

REGIONAL WINNERS: Ten 1st prizes – BBC Microcomputer Model B. Ten 2nd prizes – £50 W H Smith voucher for computer goods. Ten 3rd prizes – £30 W H Smith voucher.

NATIONAL WINNERS: 1st prize – Full BBC Microcomputer System, including BBC Microcomputer Model B, Disc Storage System and either a 14in colour Video Monitor or a "Sparkjet" Printer. 2nd Prize – £100 W H Smith voucher for computer goods. 3rd prize – £50 W H Smith voucher

● Since its launch in January 1982, the BBC microcomputer has become a firm favourite with educational establishments.

With high-resolution colour graphics, a fast Basic, and three channel sound, the BBC micro has become not only a popular games playing machine but has gained a wide acceptance in small business applications.

How many middle men do we need?

Rex Malik continues his study of changes in a computer society

An interface is a concept which involves the specification of the conditions necessary for interconnetion between two parts of a system which have different functions Handbook of Data Communications, published by the NCC.

You cannot be much more authoritative than that, even if you think it could have been put more elegantly. Interface is a term now spreading into wide use outside its previous technical confines and to which usage there is often objection, objection usually found among those liable to write in the front half of the paper.

Actually, they are wrong to object. If the term did not exist we would have to invent one to describe the condition. Connect, transfer, translate simply will not do. Interface, like program, defines a condition which one can perhaps best think of as the interconnection of different intellectual states, one or more of which is executed in electronic form, nowadays mostly digital.

I wrote last week of the distinction between hard and fuzzy data, as costs of storage fall and volumes of data mount, more and more hard data becomes digitalised. More and more does it become the province of machines.

More and more does the absurdity of people interfacing between machines become apparent. That is so, fundamentally, economically and in terms of efficiency and speed.

So why is it still often necessary? We tend to forget that for all the manufacturers' 'hype', the technology was not imposed top down by any one manufacturer.

Making complex systems work, and indeed making the complex system themselves, making them interconnect requires the connection of equipments and programs built to different concepts, ideas, and just plain 'it was all that was possible at the time' possibilities.

A new central processor may well end up connecting artefacts which have roots at anywhere in time over the last forty to fifty years.

Our problem then is to impose standards on that collection, to make creators, manufacturers, and users to work to the same interfacing standards. This is not something that dominant manufacturers in any field are likely to approve of, for it unlocks the pace of change and their ability to control a market.

Nevertheless, it is happening. Most standards unfortunately happen after the event. They arise as the result of agreements made after the need to interconnect equipment has already arisen. However, as more and more interfaces are agreed, a clever manufacturer can organize his product to allow interconnection with devices still to come.

Thus, for instance, Sinclair Research on its new machine the QL an IEEE 488 interface for control devices, of which there are as yet few aimed at the home market.

All this is simply a recognition of the fact that almost anything that can be digitalised is at some stage of being so. As important are developments in what is known as the man machine interface, of which a good example, to go back to the handbook, is the dial of a telephone. Making interconnection easier, whether of machines or of people and machines is the trend. It is the next stage in the development of the technology and its markets.

All this, once it is laid out, is very obvious. The consequences however may not be. Charles Read, Director of Information Technology at the Post Office and chairman of the government's ITAP, has for some time been publicly saying that "all interfaces are dead".

This, you might think, is the reverse of the trend I have been describing. He has not, however, been talking about machines, but about people substituting for machines, the consequences of the interfacing of digital electronic systems.

What he means is that if your work consists primarily of handling data which can be made subject to clear, well-formulated, and machine-replicable rules, of acting as an intelligent interface between data coming in in one form and going out in another. If your work does not have fuzzy connections and does not involve directly subjective judgement as an inherent part of the skill, then the future prospects are bleak.

Now what is interesting here is that those whose jobs are challenged may not simply be those at the bottom of the ladder, but many of those part way up it. In a recent study of the insurance industry, the Technical Change Centre has noted what one can call the saddle effect: that the demands and skills are being increased on those at the top and the bottom of the organisation, and those in the middle have been, and are continuing to be, squeezed.

What happens in insurance is likely also to happen to other rule-bound areas, particularly those obvious ones, finance and the law. There is for instance no intrinsic reason why routine stockbroking, where the customer knows exactly what he wants should not simply be squeezed, but as far as people are concerned be eliminated, and handed over to systems.

Why in the future should one not be able to deal directly from home via a home terminal and telecommunications at the same time directly debiting one's own bank account and making a transfer?

Do we actually need stockbrokers in order to create a market and a price? And what happens to solicitors? Conveyancing may currently be under challenge as a solicitors' monopoly, but is it really necessary to have the process that now exists?

The question follows: does the economic basis of the legal or financial industries really require these underlying beds of routine activity involving people to maintain a sufficiency of practitioners?

One tends to forget that once a rule is placed on an easily accessible electronic digital system, and once enough copies are distributed around, we have something new. Easily accessible records can be available next year or even for two thousand years.

So, if you are of high ambition, and you choose to work in areas not primarily dependent on creative or fuzzy skills, then any reading of the entrails would indicate that you should change. If faced with someone starting out in life who wishes to enter the law, one should advise becoming a barrister rather than a solicitor, or in finance an investment analyst rather than a stockbroker.

But before panic sets in, the bleakness of the future in interface occupations is not simply a function of falling prices and technology change; it has also much to do with an innate conservatism within occupational fields and organizations.

Charles Read is right, but for the Read prediction to happen with any speed we must look elsewhere: Does the government intend to protect the legal rulebound monopoly whatever it may be. Is there going to be increased competition, and will that competition be reflected in the prices charged.

Next: Do the changing circumstances make the existing education system obsolete?



Esmond Hart: from losses to profits

Making 70 micros happy

By Dennis Freeman

Esmond Hart spent five years developing a microcomputer operating system, and the software to go with it, that would be "portable" – able to run on virtually any computer.

Success, he claims, was in sight when, after a £2m investment, CAP, one of Britain's oldest software companies sacked its entire "Microsoft" division.

Esmond Hart and four senior colleagues decided to save their project. They each put up £10,000 of their own money and bought the division from CAP.

They invited two-thirds of the Microsoft staff to join them, and in early 1981 formed Micro Products Software, makers of BOS business software.

"In the April that we took over the company we did £47,000 worth of business and made a profit," says Hart. CAP (Microsoft) had been losing £20,000 a month.

The new company now employs about 60 people, has a dealership network of 300 retailers in the UK and markets its products in 10 countries.

Last year, Hart estimates, MPSL made a profit of £350,000 on sale of £2m.

BOS software includes all the standard business and office systems: payroll, inventory control and wordprocessing. All programs are written in Micro-Cobol, which is the language of the BOS operating system. BOS, then, is like CP/M or MS-DOS, but can be used with single-user, multi-user or networking computers.

What makes BOS software unique is that it can be used without any alteration whatsoever on any of 70 micros. All the user has to do is buy a diskette which adapts the BOS operating system.

A typical software manufacturer, says Hart, will have "28 versions of his sales ledger, all confusingly similar, to run on different machines." BOS has one sales ledger but 28 versions of its operating system.

What's the difference, the consumer may ask. Hart answers:

"Suppose you have just bought the latest WorldBeater Micro. When you buy version number 29 of our typical sales ledger package, the odds are it will have bugs in it that have not yet been worked out. The BOS sales ledger, however, has already been tested in hundreds of offices over four or five years. Even if the hardware is new, it will run a proven product.

"If, now, you want to upgrade your system, all you do is buy a BOS interpreter which will put the BOS operating system on the new machine, and your software and data will transfer right over.

"Other software will not transfer as easily, even from one CP/M machine to another; you'd have to take all the source code and recompile it, putting in fixers here and there to take account of different diskette formats, and so on", he said.

In search of a treasure to keep the system going

By Mark Stone

Computer technicians and engineers need to know more about maintenance, repair and overhaul of electronic equipment in-house, and with this in mind, a new company, Trackdown Technology Training of Markyate, Herts., is offering a range of short-duration training courses specifically designed for this sphere.

The company says: "Recently the speed with which manufacturing industry has adopted electronically-based plant and equipment systems has resulted in a serious lack of technicians and engineers qualified to carry out even the most basic of servicing and repair work.

"In the main, such work is still the function of specialist service engineers employed by the original equipment manufacturer. This means heavy costs for user companies before normal production can be resumed."

In addition to costly downtime, there is a heavy hourly charge rate for engineer's time which usually starts the minute he leaves his base. To this must be added the cost of any replacement parts that may be required and the user company can be faced with a very large bill for a repair that an inhouse maintenance technician could have done more cost-effectively.

Many companies have tried to recruit such men but they have met with little success. Such specialists are hard to find and, where available, very expensive, and Trackdown says: "It has often been the case that their employment as permanent staff is not compatible with existing wage and salary structures".

The company's courses are claimed to be tailored to suit the needs of individual companies following on-site research into the types of equipment in use. They range from helping qualified electricians to understand basic electronics and learn simple fault-tracing techniques to providing electronic engineers who need to be updated on the latest developments with instruction in microprocessor systems and relevant fault-location methods.

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Plastow finally brings Vickers to surface

The 12p rise to 157p in the Vickers' share price yesterday may give a clue to the City's latest thinking about this engineering giant ofthe past that is now making profits in diverse industrial activities. Analysts and some financial institutions have grown impatient waiting for a reshaped and trouble-free Vickers to emerge under Mr David Palstow. the chief executive who came when Vickers bought Rolls-Royce Motors just over three years ago. No one is more conscious than he that his time is limited: judgment on his strategies and management performance will not be postponed indefinitely.

Ironically. a strike at Rolls-Royce in Crewe last year cost the group £4m in lost profits. Had that not happened, Vickers performance would have come near to be matching expectations. As it is pretax profits come out at a barely changed £19.5m. but it is surely not wildly optimistic to believe that the Plastow team has turned the corner. He sensibly warns against expecting other than a patchy recovery. without in anyway degrading his belief that the years take to re-shape Vickers into an efficient, cost-conscious and market-sensitive group are beginning to bring benefits for quite small improvements in actual trading.

Rolls-Royce has been performing well. which may help to reassure those who doubt its long-term prospects. Break-even has been reduced from 3,000 to 2.000 units. Between 1.600 and 1.700 were made last year present production is about 2.200.

The high margin defence and aerospace division is seeing plenty of activity though one of its largest orders comes to an end this year. In lithographic plates and supplies profits have recovered to £10.4m. from a depressed £5.7m the previous year, and £7.1m in 1981.

Largest percentage increase in profits came from healthcare and instruments. On a 16 per cent sales rise, the profit almost tripled to £2.9m. The key is nerve testing machines from Medelec. This is

VICKERS PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
Year ended December 31 1983

Principal Activities	Sales 1983 £m	Sales 1982 £m	Profit 1983 £m	Profit 1982 £m
Cars	106.8	125.6	1.1	6.2
Engineering – Australia	104.9	93.4	4.7	5.0
Lithography	90.2	76 4	10.4	5.7
Business equipment	59.8	60.0	3.4	3.2
Defence and aerospace	63.9	50.2	5.4	4.9
Marine eng	50.6	43.9	4.5	3.4
Healthcare and instruments	27.2	23.4	2.6	0.9
Design and projects	25.9	25.7	0.8	1.0
Bottling and packaging mach	21.7	24.5	0.3	1.8
Others	43.0	48.6	3.1	1.0
Total	594.0	571.7	30.1	31.1

where Vickers claim to be a world leader and it might well be looking to grow by acquisition this year.

Having disposed of South African interests and diesel engines. Vickers boast a balance sheet with almost £42m in cash. Borrowings as a percentage of shareholders funds have fallen from 43 to 31. This figure will drop further with property disposals. Vickers plans £25m of these over the next 18 months; the most important is the Millbank Tower, its present headquarters. This building cannot be sold until the 25-year rent review has been agreed which may not be until the middle of this year.

The board is paying an unchanged 8p dividend for the year. which could rise to 10p for the current year as pretax profits move towards this would still fall short of the 12p for 1981. The Vickers board has to prove that its talent for reshaping ancient monuments is combined with the skill to ensure the sustained development of new structures. Mr Plastow may also have to show a pragmatic streak if the opportunities occur for Vickers to buy back into naval shipbuilding (Barrow-in-Furness) and armaments (via the privatization of Royal Ordnance Factories). Would that amount to turning back the Vickers' clock?

Balancing the state's books

It is ironic that a government committed to the old-fashioned virtues of sound money and lower public debt should be accused of presiding over a substantial deterioration in state finances. It is perverse that this is supposed to have come about through the Government's success in reducing inflation and interest rates and its attempt to rein back public spending. Yet this is the burden of the argument presented yesterday by the Institute for Fiscal Studies which has tried to construct some kind of balance sheet of the assets and liabilities of the public sector.

The IFS points out that for many years the real value of the Government's liabilities had shrunk – by £2 billion a year in the five years to 1981-82 – because inflation eroded the value of public debt faster than new borrowing has added to it. In 1982-83. however. the sharp drop in inflation meant that new borrowing added to the Government's real liabilities. while the fall in interest rates pushed up the real price of gilts.

Prospects for the future look even worse in IFS eyes. The revenues from the depletion of Britain's oil resources are not being matched by a corresponding increase in assets. while the earnings-related state pension scheme, which comes to fruition at the turn of the century could be adding £15 billion-£20 billion a year to the public sector's unfunded pension liabilities.

"The next few years could see an accelerated deterioration in the public sector's overall position. perhaps by as much as £20 billion-£25 billion each year. This contrasts starkly with the improvement (helped by the development of the North Sea and rapid inflation) of about the same magnitude between 1966 and 1975".

There is much to be said for getting the government to provide sensible information on its assets and liabilities, and in real terms. But a temporary fall in the public sector's net worth is not necessarily a signal for a change in policy. As the institute points out economic growth leading to a drop in the £15 billion cost of 3 million unemployed could transform the position. That, ministers will argue, is what their sound money policies are designed to achieve.

* Public finances in perspective by Mark Ashworth, John Hills and Nick Morris. Institute for Fiscal Studies, 1-2 Castle Lane, London SW1.

Government will force banks to pay interest net of tax

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The Government is to force the banks to pay interest net of tax to their personal customers, bringing them into line with the composite rate system operated by the building societies.

As foreshadowed in *The Times* on Saturday, legislation is to be introduced with the 1984 Finance Bill: the changeover is likely to take place in 1985. The move will have profound effects in the savings market and is the most significant indication yet of the Government's intention to remove "inequalities" and irregularities in the tax system.

Last week, the Government changed the rules on how building societies are taxed on their investment profits so that the societies are now taxed in the same way as banks. This produced howls of outrage from building societies because it may double their tax bill.

The banks are likely to be equally furious about being made to pay interest net. At present they pay interest gross to customers. Although they have long complained that the composite rate gave the societies a big advantage in the savings market, they will not welcome having to operate it themselves.

A spokesman for the Committee of London Clearing Bankers said yesterday: "We would much rather have seen the composite rate abolished than have it extended to us." Bankers are also angry at the indications that the new system will not be extended to National Savings because they fear that it may attract many of their non-taxpaying customers.

"The Government will have a monopoly of providing tax-free deposits suitable for widows and orphans and people who do not pay tax," the clearers' committee said.

Another problem for the banks is that the switch to a composite rate system will involve a huge amount of extra work. They will end up collecting tax on behalf of the Inland Revenue. which would no longer have to send tax assessments to people receiving interest from the banks.

The savings to the Inland Revenue is one of the factors which encouraged the Government to make the move.

Final details of how the system will operate have yet to be decided. However it is expected to be similar to that operated by the building societies which pay interest to depositors after deducting a special composite tax rate of 25 per cent at present. The composite rate is agreed with the Inland Revenue and is averaged out below the basic rate of 30 per cent to reflect the fact that some depositors do not pay tax.

The banks have lost out badly to the building societies over the last decade in personal savings but recently some have taken advantage of the fact that building societies are not allowed to pay interest gross and have had great success attracting savings from children and other non-taxpayers.

Tozer seeks cash rise

Shareholders of Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn (Holdings), the troubled motor trader which is being supported by its bankers, are to be asked to approve a rise in the group's borrowing limits at an extraordinary meeting on March 12.

The move is likely to be opposed by some shareholders. One said: "We will not achieve much by voting against the resolution but at least it will show that we are unhappy with the direction of the company's affairs."

Tozxer is limited to having borrowings of no more than four times the size of shareholders' funds. These have been depleted in recent years by losses and writeoffs.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 1041.3 up 4.4 (day's high: 1044.3, low 1038.8)
FT Index: 819.1 up 3.3
FT Gilts: 82.49 up 0.1
FT All Share: 493.45 up 2.15
Bargains: 27,000
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 107.29 up 0.67
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1164.78 down 0.32
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10071.48 up 83.18
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1022.85 down 25.91
Amsterdam: 169.4 up 3.5
Sydney: AO Index 745.8 up 2.2
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1039.2 up 4.7
Brussels: General Index 141.62 up 0.69
Paris: CAC Index 164.3 up 1.6

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4735 up 20pts
Index 82.7 up 0.1
DM 3.8825 up 0.01
FrF 11.9450 up 0.0250
Yen 344.0 up 0.75
Dollar
Index 127.8 up 0.3
DM 2.6355 up 0.0060
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4735
Dollar DM 2.6365
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.578800
SDR £0.720391

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9¹⁄₁₆-9
3 month interbank 9⁹⁄₃₂-9¼
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10-10⅛
3 month DM 5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5¹³⁄₁₅
3 month FrF 16½-16
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¹¹⁄₁₆
Treasury long bond 98²³⁄₃₂-98²⁷⁄₃₂
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 4 to February 7, 1984 inclusive: 9.493 per cent.

Feldstein warning on dollar

From Bailey Morris Washington

Mr Martin Feldstein, President Reagan's chief economics adviser, said yesterday that the dollar could drop precipitously this year if no action is taken to reduce soaring US budget deficits, projected at about $200 billion.

Mr Feldstein, chairman of the US council of economic advisers, said failure of the negtiations between the administration and Congress to reduce the deficit could cause "a sharp, undesirable dip in the dollar" and lead to rekindled inflation expectations.

His remarks came even as White House and congressional negotiators indicated their deficit reduction talks were stalemated and the nation's governors met in Washington to present President Reagan with their own bipartisan proposal to cut deficits.

"The deficits have to be dealt with," said Mr James R. Thompson, the Republican governor of Illinois, who said he disagreed sharply with President Reagan's budget programme even though he was his campaign manager in the key state of Illinois.

Martin Feldstein: call for modest decline in dollar

Mr Feldstein, reflecting the views of European officials, indicated that it would be far better for the overhauled dollar to decline modestly this year, by about 4 or 5 per cent which is what most private forecasters think likely.

But he acknowledged that the private forecasters were wrong last year when the dollar rocketed in value.

The US policy of non-intervention which has allowed sharp swings in the dollar has been raised often in both public and recent private meetings with European officials, according to British sources who said the worst fear of many governments is a steep decline in the dollar.

Shares of Mellins suspended

By William Kay City Editor

Mellins, the clothing firm which has in the past year been classed as one of the London stock market's Turkish "wonder stocks", is in difficulty.

Yesterday, dealings in the company's shares were suspended at 30p, down 36p on the day. Last year they were as high as 247p. A statement said that discussions were taking place "concerning a possible refinancing of the company".

A further announcement may be made later in the week.

Sources close to Mellins say that its main bank, Barclays, decided on Friday that it could not provide additional support. Barclays has put a leading firm of accountants into Mellins' offices to report on whether finance should continue to be supplied while Mellins looks for alternative sources.

The crisis follows the ending of negotiations which might have led to a merger with another company.

Stock market interest in Mellins was aroused in November 1982 when Mr Touker Suleyman bought 9 per cent of the shares and became chairman. Mr Suleyman's private firm, Kingsland, has been a big supplier of uniforms to HM Forces and speculation at one time linked him with Mr Asil Nadir of Polly Peck.

Mr Suleyman expanded Mellins last year by buying clothes businesses from the receiver of R and J Pullman. In October he announced plans to take over a jeans factory in Turkey form another failed company.

A month later the company reported a loss of £166,000 for the half-year to June, against a comparable loss of £183,000 the previous year. Mr Suleyman then added: "Mellins is now trading on a sound UK base."

Court rules against Bell offer

By Jonathan Clare

The Victoria Supreme Court has ruled that the £145m offer by Mr Robert Holmes à Court's Bell Resources for 16million shares in Broken Hill Proprietary is a breach of section 96 of the Australian companies code.

The judgement was made yesterday by Mr Justice Hampel in the proceedings which BHP had instituted against Bell after Mr Holmes à Court launched his second raid on the mining and steel group in less than six months.

He decided that Bell's acceptance form for its first-come-first-served tender offer constituted an application, which under Australian company law must be accompanied by a full prospectus.

A further hearing was adjourned until today, when the judge is expected to grant BHP, Australia's biggest company, the orders it is seeking against Bell.

Mr Holmes à Court arrived yesterday morning in London for the regualr Associated Communications Corporation board meeting. He is also expected to discuss further moves at Fleet Holdings, publishers of the *Daily Express, Daily Star* and *Sunday Express*, where he has built up a stake of 9.5 per cent.

A meeting of the Weeks Petroleum board, where Mr Holmes à Court has become chairman after taking control of 46 per cent of the shares this month, is also expected.

The dispute between Bell and BHP over disclosure of information is not clear cut. Mr Holmes à Court and Orde Minnett, his stockbrokers, believed a full prospectus was not necessary after a meeting with the Australian National Companies and Securities Commission. It said Bell's strategy did not contravene the areas overwhich it had jurisdiction.

If the orders sought by BHP are granted today, Bell is likely to appeal against a clause giving shareholders a 21 day cooling-off period to decide whether they wish to withdraw.

Bell's advisers also hope they will be able to publish supplementary information rather than a full prospectus.

Hanson alleges bid breach by bank

By Jeremy Warner

Hanson Trust last night asked the Takeover Panel to grant an extension to its £247m bid for London Brick, alleging that London Brick's merchant bank, Lazard Brother, breached the takeover code when it bought shares in the company last Friday.

The offer was due to close at 3pm today having run the full 60 days that the Takeover Panel allows a takeover battle to last and the result was expected to be extremely close.

But Hanson has now asked the Panel's executive for an "appropriate extension", alleging that many small private shareholders who might have accepted the bid had been confused by the purchase of Lazard Brothers of 375,000 shares last Friday.

The market raid led to a big jump in the share price and prompted speculation that an eleventh hour "white knight" was about to enter the battle for control.

"The purchases were not made through London Brick's official stockbroker which gave rise to speculation about a possible rival bidder," said Mr Martin Taylor, a Hanson director.

"This is in direct contravention of general principle five of the takeover code which stresses that all parties to a takeover must use their best endeavours to ensure that no false market in created in a company's shares."

It would be highly unusual for the Takeover Panel to grant an extension.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Airbus aid decision on Thursday

The Government's decision on the amount of aid to grant to British Aerospace for its part in the 150-seat A320 Airbus project. is likely to be announced after Thursday's Cabinet meeting.

BAe has sought £437m of launch aid to supplement the £200m it is providing for its proposed 26 per cent share of the project.

The Government, however, has been attempting to find ways to reduce the amount of direct state aid – even though it would be refundable – by putting together a package of private funds.

● Ladbroke Group, the betting shop company, is pulling out of plans to buy Turf Paradise, a racetrack in Arizona.

● Wall Street share prices edged higher in early trading, with the Dow Jones industrial average gaining 1½ points.

● Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho, took home slightly less in pay, expenses, and benefits last year. The group's annual report shows his £266.034 package dropped to £264.554.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $394.00 pm $393.50
close $394-$394.50 (£268.25-£268.75)
New York (latest): $395.25
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$406-$407.50 (£276.50-£277.50)
Sovereigns* (new):
$92.50-$93.50 (£63-£63.75)
*Excludes VAT

Brazil to draw in $6.5bn loan before IMF talks

From Patrick Knight, Sao Paulo

The first $1 billion (£685m) tranche of Brazil's $6.5 billion loan, is to be released in ten days. Two more similar tranches will be released at weekly intervals to allow Brazil to bring all outstanding interest and other payments up to date.

There had been growing concern that the banks would not start paying out the loan until after the next meeting of the International Monetary Fund board in mid-March.

Brazil's latest special drawing rights tranche of $380m will be paid out then. The release of this has been delayed because Brazil had to ask for a waiver of the terms of its letter of intent with the IMF because it did not meet all debt service commitments due by the end of last year. This was caused by the delay in the final signing of the loan.

There has also been growing concern that the IMF might take some action in view of the continued high level of inflation, despite a series of measures to force it down. This month's rate is likely to be more than 12 per cent, one of the worst in recent times.

There is now talk of a price freeze. Brazil's banking creditors have been pleased by the continuing good trade surpluses, but they also want to see signs that the internal economy is back on course.

Production problems at Enterprise field

Threat to oil group's valuation

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Production problems at one North Sea oil field and an adverse tax ruling on another are likely to cause a reduction in the City's valuation of Enterprise Oil when the Government floats it on the stock market this summer.

The North West Hutton field, in which Enterprise holds a 25 per cent interest, is facing the kind of teething problems that are common with new North Sea developments. The field is Enterprise's single largest holding, accounting for more than half its total asset value.

The field began production last year and quickly built a production rate of more than 80,000 barrels a day, but since then things have not run so smoothly.

Whereas the field was originally expected to reach a peak production level of 100,000 barrels a day this year, delays in bringing in new production wells – coupled with the complexity of the reservoir – mean that production has slipped back to between 50,000 and 60,000 barrels a day.

Amoco, the operator of the field, confirmed yesterday that the original 100,000 barrels a day target is no longer attainable. While it would not be drawn into detailed forecasts, Amoco now believes that production is unlikely to rise much above present levels, resulting in a flatter production profile than was originally envisaged.

The total amount of oil recoverable from the field – an estimated 300 million barrels – will not be affected, however.

The new profile means that Enterprise's income from the North Sea in its early years will be lower than most analysts have been expecting. It will inevitably lead to a down grading of estimates of the Treasury's likely proceeds from the sale, althoughit will not jeopardize the flotation itself.

Mr Julian West, a director of Enterprise, said: "Naturally we are aware of what is happening with North West Hutton. But it is not a problem for us". Estimates of the market value of Enterprise range from £350m to £500m, and the flotation is still expected to fall within that range.

Enterprise has also been hit by a Government ruling that the Arbroath discovery, in which it is also involved, cannot be treated as a separate field for tax purposes. As a result its commercial development has had to be put back, although the ruling may be reversed if further drilling proves that the discovery is distinct from the nearby Montrose field structure.

MARKET REPORT ● by Andrew Cornelius

CBI and LBS optimism gives a boost

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 27. Dealings end, March 9. Contango Day, March 12. Settlement Day, March 19.

The first day's trading of the new account got off to a flying start with shares trying to catch up with the pre-weekend rally in prices on Wall Street. Within minutes, the *FT*-30 share index had risen by 5.2 to 821.0, while the new *FT*-SE 100 share index rose by 7.4 from Friday's closing level of 1036.9.

But by lunchtime the early enthusiasm died away as dealers looked for more evidence that the Wall Street rise was justified. One dealer, explaining the weaker mood, said: "We are no longer expected to follow Wall Street without good reason".

Investers were more impressed by another encouraging survey of business trends from the CBI which indicated that demand for manufactured products is continuing to rise. Further impetus was provided by the London Business School, which predicted a 2.8 per cent expansion of the economy this year

These forecasts, coupled with strong results from **Vickers**, the engineering and Rolls-Royce group, were enough to sustain some of the early gains in leading share prices and the *FT* 30 closed the day up by 3.3 at 819.1. The *FT* SE was up by 4.4 points at 1041.3 on the day.

The pretax profits of £18.5m for 1983 from Vickers were at the top end of forecasts (£19.6m in 1982). The shares rose by 12p to close at 157p and helped offset the nasty jolt to the market caused by an 18p fall in the price of *ICI* shares, which closed at 582p as they went ex-dividend.

Elsewhere, engineers were also helped by increasing optimism about government approval to fund the Airbus A320 European jetliner project. A decision is expected on Thursday and **Hawker Siddeley** shares were up by 4p at 404p, while **British Aerospace** shares rose by 1p to 239p.

Gilts regained some composure after last week's shock caused by the Inland Revenue's decision to charge building societies 40 per cent tax on their gilt investments. The building societies' return to the market as buyers helped strengthen prices by £⅛ and £¼ although index-linked loans suffered losses of £½ a point. The effect was to push up the *FT* Gilts Index by 0.1 on the day to close at 82.49.

Dewey Warren Holdings is the latest Lloyd's insurance broker to join the unlisted stock market after the decision by its parent company, Argyle Trust, the property and financial services group, to divest itself of its insurance business. Argyle shareholders are being offered one share in Dewey Warren for every five Argyle shares as a bonus issue. Dealings begin tomorrow, with dealers expecting a tight market in Dewey Warren shares to force a price of about £1 for each share.

The biggest news on the equities front was the suspension of shares of **Mellins**, the clothing manufacturer, after the price collapsed by 32p to 28p. A statement to the Stock Exchange said that the company is involved in discussions concerning a possible refinancing package. A further statement is promised within the next few days.

In buildings, there was keen interest in **London Brick**, where the shares fell by 7p to 161p ahead of this afternoon's close of the £247m takeover bid by **Hanson Trust**. Shares of Hanson were up by 1p to 175p on the day.

Bank shares attracted support ahead of the dividend season which begins for the "big four" next week. **Lloyds** led the way with a gain of 12p to 604p which also partily reflectied revaluation of its shares in the wake of the re-rating of both **Barclays** and **National Westminster** share prices. Barclays gained 12p to close at 549p, and National Westminister were 10p better.

There was strong interest in shares of **BAT Industries**, the tobacco group which recently completed the record takeover of Eagle Star Holdings, the insurance group. This time, the market is waiting for an announcement concerning its Canadian associate, **Imasco**, where dealings have been halted. BAT's shares closed up by 13p at 191p on the news.

Shares of **Applied Computer Techniques**, the Birmingham Sirius and Apricot computer company, rose by 35p to 648p after a forecast from the company that pretax profits will more than double to £4.5m in the year which ends next month. The forecast accompanied news that ACT is planning a £17m rights issue.

Ladbroke's, the betting group, fell by 7p to 228p after it announced that it was pulling out of a proposed bid for Turf Paradise, the Arizona racetrack, because of problems in winning support from the Arizona Racing Commission.

Merseyside property group, **John Finlan**, found its shares marked up by 15p to 188p after Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey's **Amadeus** took a 14.99 per cent stake in the company.

Lonrho shares were down by 7p at 147p when the annual report revealed that the group is seeking shareholders' approval to increase its shareholders' capital.

County Bank was reported to have bought 30,000 shares at 60p in **Michawl Black**, ton unlisted securities market company, which is the target of rival bids by **Emess Lighting**, the fully quoted lighting group, and **Highgate & Job**, the USM company run by Mr Mark Watson-Mitchell.

The first set of results from the **Michael Peters Group**, the design company, since it came to the USM last October show a four-fifths interim profits increase from £139,000 to £253,000. The results are printed on the back of a large piece of artwork, one of the more imaginative devices used to catch shareholders' attention.

The brokers De Zoete & Bevan is looking for pretax profits of £350m for the year to September 30, against £295.2m last year, after a meeting with the company. De Zoete is looking for strong growth this year in the US consumer products businesses and £25m from US hotels disposals. Yesterday the shares were up by 1p at 346p.

The market now expects profits of at least £500,000 for the full year. The ocmpany made no profits forecast when it came to the USM but did promise a dividend for the year of 1.785p. The shares were unchanged at 144p yesterday. The profits growth has come from higher turnover and activity, both among overseas and British clients. The trend has continued into the third quarter.

The USM newcomer **Norbain Electronics** opened 54p ahead of the 116p placing price and continued to rise to close up by 64p on the day's trading at 180p. The brokers Simon & Coates placed 920,000 shares in the group, which distributes high technology epquipment

Intereurope Technology Services also performed strongly on the unlisted market after the company announced pretax profits which rose from £393,000 to £528,000 in the half year to December 31, 1983, compared with the previous year. The group, which is the largest producer of technical documentation for industry and the Government, saw its shares rise by 22p on the day's trading to finish at 261p.

The merchant bankers Morgan Grenfell yesterday announced details of an offer for sale by tender of 1,633,500 shares in the **Our Price** record stores chain at a minimum tender price of 150p. Brokers to the issue are Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee. Prospectuses will be available tomorrow and the application list for shares will open next Tuesday with dealings to begin on the full stock market on March 12.

Our Price operates 77 shops in the south, making it the leargest specialist record retailer in Britain. In the year to September 30, 1983 Our Price claims to have won 5.5 per cent of the British market worth £455m a year. Pretax profits of at least £1.1m are forecast for the year to May 30 1984 against £989,000 the previous year.

Shares of **Fitch & Co**, the design group, were up by 25p to 285p on the USM on news that the group had won an important design contract with the Asda stores group.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton;
Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Apl	830-20
May	830-28
Apl-Jne	830-23
Jne/Sep	861-60
Oct/Dec	880-76
Jan/Mch	896-91
Apl/Jne	916-08
Jne/Sep	964-40
Oct/Dec	964-40
Vol:	65

SUGAR No 6	
Mch	172.00-172.60
May	183.00-182.20
Aug	194.00-194.20
Oct	201.20-201.60
Dec	207.80-208.40
Mch	223.60-223.80
May	1230 60-231.80

COCOA	
Mar	1669-68
May	1698-96
Jly	1700-99
Sep	1697-93
Dec	1696-92
Mch	1698-94
May	1699-80
Vol	4,738

COFFEE	
Mch	2062-60
May	1932-30
Jly	1855-54
Sep	1808-06
Nov	1778-77
Jan	1749-41
Mar	1718-12
Vol:	1,273

GAS OIL	
Feb	244.00-243.00
Mch	243.75-243.50
Apl	242.25-242.00
May	242.25-242.00
Jne	240.00-240.75
Jly	243.00
Aug	244.50-243.60
Sep	245.50
Oct	247.00-244.00
Vol: 1,362	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices:
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	986-60.86 50
Three months	1006-00 06.50
T/O	8000
Tone: Firmer.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	973-60.74.00
Three months	994-00.96.00
T/O	750
Tone: Quiet	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8390-8400
Three months	8516-20
T/O.	825
Tone: Barely steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8420-30
Three months	8640-60
T/O:	50
Tone. Quiet.	
LEAD	
Cash	278-00
Three months	287.50m88.00
T/O:	3800
Tone: Firmer.	
ZINC	
Cash	665-00.66.00
Three months	661.62
T/O:	3775
Tone: Easier.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	648.5-50.00
Three months	663.5-64.5
T/O:	39
Tone: Steadier at the lower levels.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	988.00-89.00
Three months	10130.00-14.00
T/O:	8.300
Tone. Easier.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3127-28
Three months	3204-05
T/O:	1020
Tone: Barely Steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US$ per oz.

Apl	397.20-297.30
Jun	403.20-404.00
Aug	410.20-410.80
Oct	417.30-418.00
Dec	424.50-425.50

Tot: Vol. 61 Tone: Slightly Easier.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Mar'84	45	4290
June'84	40	4328
Comment: Inactive.		
STERLING		
Mar'84	125	1.4690
June'84	22	1.4725
Sep'84	–	1.4765
Comment: Improving.		
D-MARK		
Mar'84	143	3798
June'84	64	3838
Sept'84	–	3874
Comment: Stable.		
SWISS FRANC		
Mar'84	4	4599
June'84	13	4673
Comment: Steady.		
EURODOLLARS		
Mar'84	426	9001
June'84	2654	8950
Sep'84	59	8916
Dec'84	63	8886
Mar'85	–	8862
Comment: Under Pressure.		
SHORT STERLING		
Mar'84	130	9098
June'84	905	9078
Sep'84	267	9060
Dec'84	16	9044
Mar'85	1	9020
Comment: Quiet.		
GILTS		
Mar'84	2046	10820
June'94	631	10810
Sept'84	5	10726
Dec'84	–	10710
Mar'85	–	10626
Comment: Steady.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 27:
GB: Cattle, 95.66p per kg lw (+0.65).
GB: Sheep, 200.87p per kg est d c w (+4.98).
GB: Pigs, 84.32p per kg lw (+3.05).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 1.1 per cent, ave. price, 95.92p (+0.45).
Sheep nos. down 0.2 per cent, ave. price, 201.80p (+4 90).
Pig nos. up 3.4 per cent. ave. price, 84.39p (+3 08).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 13.3 per cent. ave. price, 94.07p (+1 52).
Sheep nos. up 0.2 per cent. ave. price, 196.27p (+5.30).
Pig nos. down 27.7 per cent. ave. price, 76.38p (+0 96).

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
Mar	£121.46	120.00
May	£124.10	120.55
Jly	£126.15	–
Sep	£109.00	105.60
Nov	£111.35	108.60
Jan	£114 30	111.55

MONEY MARKETS

Early pointers to a break in the lengthy run of hefty shortages provided the market with an opportunity to pick up some reasonably cheap money yesterday.

And although Treasury swings against the market finally meant the day was almost £200m short rather that the "flat" position originally envisaged, most houses found closing balances within bounds of 8¾ per cent and 9 per cent, having seen money as low as 8¼ per cent during the afternoon.

The Bank of England gave assistance totalling £164m, buying outright £144m of bills across the four bands at unchanged rates,and lending about £20m to the houses

The authorities cited five major underlying items when coming up with their initial forecast of a day roughly in balance. Draining liquidity from the market were maturing assistance and take-up Treasury bills amounting to £246m, and £248m of bills due to be repurchased by the market.

Offsetting factors were a £23m surplus on Exchequer transactions, £230m of notes returning from the week encirculation and bankers' balances that came across the weekend £20m above target.

Period rates made their most significant move for several weeks, easing by as much as ⅛ at the longer end. Firmness of the pound was one helpful factor, the gilt "repro" at the end of the week another. Also, several traders reported hearing of sizeable certificates of deposit buying on behalf of the building societies following hefty selling of gilts on the tax move.

Most othe business took place in the afternoon, with three-month certificates of deposit bought at 9³⁄₁₆ per cent, "sixes" at 9⁹⁄₃₂ per cent, "nines" at 9⁹⁄₃₂ per cent, and "twelves" at 9¹³⁄₃₂ per cent.

Interbank, overnight money traded between 9 per cent and 8¾ for the most part, but reached 9¼ per cent late in the session before dipping to 8 per cent offered at the close.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A lack-lustre day which opened with a stronger dollar, closed with the US unit resuming its recent easier trend and with the pound 20 points up on balance at 1.4735. Sterling was also firmer to most continentals. The trade-weighted index closed 0.1 up at 82.7.

With the Middle East hostilities continuing to underline background fears about oil supplies despite a statement about a stockpile, the pound regained ground helped by good North Sea oil omens. It finished just below the high of 1.4745

Adding a pfennig to its Deutschemark value at 3.8825, sterling put on 2.5 centimes against French francs at 11.9450 and 75 points against the guilder, 4.38 but was unchanged to Swiss francs, 3,2050. It also gained 0.75 of a yen at 344.

Just 60 points better to the Deutschemark at 2.6355 after a 2.6465 morning high, the dollar added 45 points against French francs at 8.1095 and just 10 points up on the guilder, 2.9720. It gained 20 points on the yen at 233.25 but lost 5 points on Swiss francs at 2.1760.

WALL STREET

	Feb 24	Feb 23
AMF Inc	14½	14⅞
AMR	30⅝	29⅝
Allied Chem	49½	48⅝
Allied Stores	41	41¾
Allis Chalmers	14	13⅞
Alcoa	38⅛	37⅞
Amax Inc	25	24⅞
Amerada Hess	31¾	32
Am Brands	56⅝	56
Am Broadcast	52⅝	50½
Am Can	48⅝	48⅝
Am Cyanamid	45	42⅝
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16⅞
Am Home	52⅛	51⅝
Am Motors	5⅞	6⅛
Am Nat Res	46⅛	45⅞
Am Standard	27⅛	27⅝
Am Telephone	17⅛	16⅞
Armco Steel	19⅞	18⅞
Asarco	33⅝	34⅛
Ashland Oil	27⅝	27
Atlntic Richfield	45⅝	48⅛
Avco	28⅝	25⅞
Avon Products	23⅞	23
Bankers Tst NY	46⅛	46
Bank of America	20⅞	20⅞
Bank of Boston	40⅝	41⅝
Bank of NY	30⅞	29⅝
Beatrice Foods	34⅛	33⅞
Bethlehem Steel	24⅞	22⅝
Boeing	43⅞	42
Boise Cascade	35⅛	35⅛
Borden	62	52⅛
Borg Warner	20½	20½
Bristol Myers	44	42⅝
BP	25	24⅞
Burlington Ind	27⅛	27⅛
Burlington Nthn	84⅛	82⅝
Burroughs	47⅞	46⅝
Campbell Soup	59⅝	58⅝
Canadian Pacific	35½	35½
Caterpillar	47	45⅝
Celanese	68⅝	67
Central Soya	14⅛	14⅛
Chase Manhat	48⅝	48⅛
Chem Bank NY	48⅛	47⅝
Chrysler	28	26⅝
Citicorp	34⅛	34⅛
Clark Equip	32	31
Coca Cola	53½	56⅝
Colgate	23⅝	23½
CBS	64⅝	63⅝
Columbia Gas	34⅛	34⅝
Combustion Eng	36⅝	36⅝
Comwlth Edison	22⅝	22½
Cons Edison	23	23
Cons Foods	26	26⅛
Cons Power	12⅝	11⅞
Continental Grp	47½	47½
Control Data	38	39⅞
Corning Glass	62⅛	60⅝
CPC Intnl	37	36⅝
Crane	28½	27
Crocker Int	28	27⅞
Crown Zeller	35⅝	33½
Dart & Kraft	68½	68⅝
Deere	31⅞	31⅞
Delta Air	35	33½
Detroit Edison	13	12⅞
Disney	51⅛	49½
Dow Chemical	28½	28⅝
Dresser Ind	17⅝	17⅝
Duke Power	23⅝	23⅛
Du Pont	46½	46
Eastern Air	6⅝	6½
Eastman Kodak	69	68⅝
Eaton Corp	47⅞	45½
Esmark	40⅝	39½
Evans P. D.	7⅝	7
Exxon Corp	38⅛	38
Fed Dept Stores	53	50⅝
Firestone	16⅛	16⅝
Fst Chicago	25⅛	25⅝

	Feb 24	Feb 23
Fst Intrst Bncp	38⅛	38
Fst Penn Corp	6⅝	6½
Ford	38	38⅝
GAF Corp	15½	15⅝
GTE Corp	37⅞	35⅝
Gen Dynamics	50	49
Gen Electric	53⅝	52
Gen Foods	48⅝	47⅞
Gen Mills	47⅝	45½
Gen Motors	69⅝	67⅝
Gen Pub Util NY	7½	7⅝
Gen Tire	32½	30⅛
Genesco	6	5⅝
Georgia Pacific	22⅝	21⅞
Getty Oil	127½	127½
Gillette	45⅝	45⅛
Goodrich	31	31
Goodyear	26⅛	25⅝
Gould Inc	28½	27⅛
Grace	38⅝	38⅛
Gt Atltc & Pacific	12	12
Greyhound	22⅞	22⅞
Grumman Corp	23⅝	23⅝
Gulf Oil	63	64
Gulf & West	29⅛	29
Heinz H. J.	36	35⅛
Hercules	30½	29⅝
Honeywell	54	53½
IC Inds	44	42⅝
Ingersoll	48	45½
Inland Steel	25	24⅝
IBM	111⅛	108⅞
Int Harvester	11⅛	10⅝
INCO	14⅛	13⅞
Int Paper	51	48½
Int Tel Tel	40½	38⅞
Irving Bank	58⅝	56⅞
Jewel Co	44⅝	44⅝
Jim Walter	32⅛	31⅞
Johnson & John	36⅛	35⅞
Kaiser Alumin	17⅛	17
Kerr McGee	34⅛	33⅝
Kimberly Clark	85⅞	85
K Mart	30	28½
Kroger	32	31⅞
L.T.V. Corp	16⅛	16⅞
Litton	58⅞	58⅞
Lockheed	37⅞	36½
Lucky Stores	16⅞	16⅞
Manuf Hanover	38⅛	38
Manville Cp	11⅛	11⅛
Mapco	24⅝	24⅛
Marine Midland	34⅞	35⅛
Martin Marietta	33⅝	31⅛
McDonnell	65⅝	55½
Mead	33	32⅞
Merck	91⅛	90⅛
Minnesota Mng	76⅛	73⅞
Mobil Oil	30	30
Monsanto	87⅛	85
Morgan J. P.	71⅛	69⅛
Motorola	117½	115⅛
NCR Corp	111⅛	110⅝
NL Industries	14⅛	14
Nabisco	41⅞	41⅞
Nat Distillers	27⅝	27⅛
Nat Med Ent	21⅞	21⅞
Norfolk South	57	56⅝
NW Bancorp	30⅛	29⅛
Occidental Pet	29	28⅝
Ogden	25⅞	25⅛
Olin Corp	26	25⅝
Owens-Illinois	34⅛	34½
Pacific Gas Elec	13⅝	13⅝
Pan Am	7	6⅝
Penney J. C.	51⅛	50½
Pennzoil	37	36⅞
Pepsico	36⅞	35⅝
Pfizer	37½	36⅝
Phelps Dodge	27	26
Philip Morris	69	67⅞
Phillips Petrol	42⅝	41½
Polaroid	28⅝	28⅝

	Feb 24	Feb 23
PPG Ind	29⅛	28⅛
Proctor Gamble	48	46⅝
Pub Ser El & Gas	21⅞	21⅞
Raytheon	40⅛	38⅝
RCA Corp	32⅞	31⅛
Republic Steel	22	22
Reynolds Ind	58⅝	58½
Reynolds Metal	29⅞	30⅛
Rockwell Int	28⅝	26⅝
Royal Dutch	51⅛	50⅛
Safeways	24½	24½
St Regis Paper	37⅞	37⅞
SFE Sopac	23⅛	22⅝
SCM	35	34⅛
Schlumberger	47⅞	48
Scott Paper	27⅛	26⅞
Seagram	34⅝	33⅝
Sears Roebuck	35⅞	34⅝
Shell Oil	57	56⅝
Shell Trans	37	36⅝
Signal Co	28½	27½
Singer	22⅝	21⅞
Smithkline Beck	56⅝	56⅛
Sony	15	14⅞
Sth Cal Edison	35⅞	35⅛
Sperry Corp	42⅛	39⅝
Std Oil California	36⅝	36½
Std Oil Indiana	53⅞	52⅞
Std Oil Ohio	47	47
Sterling Drug	24⅛	24
Stevens J. P.	23½	22
Sun Comp	53⅝	53⅝
Teledyne	162⅛	160⅛
Tenneco	39⅛	38⅞
Texaco	41⅛	38½
Texas East Corp	63½	63½
Texas Inst	129⅝	128⅛
Texas Utilities	23⅛	22⅞
Textron	28⅝	29½
TWA	26½	24⅞
Travelers Corp	32⅞	31
TRW Inc	70	69½
UAL Inc	31⅛	30⅝
Union Carbide	53⅞	52½
Union Oil Calif	36⅝	36⅛
Un Pacific Corp	45⅛	44⅝
Uniroyal	13⅝	13⅞
United Brands	19⅛	19⅛
US Industries	15⅞	15⅝
US Steel	27⅛	27
Utd Technol	61⅛	59
Wachovia	41⅞	41⅛
Warner Comms	25⅝	24⅝
Warner Lambert	32⅞	31
Wells Fargo	39⅛	37⅛
Westnghse Elec	47⅛	46
Weyerhauser	30⅛	29
Whirlpool	42⅛	41⅛
Woolworth	31⅞	31⅛
Xerox Corp	43⅛	42⅝
Zenith	29⅞	26⅛
Canadian Prices		
Abitibi	25⅞	25⅝
Alcan Alumin	43	43⅞
Algoma Steel	26½	26⅛
Bell Telephone	30⅛	30⅛
Cominco	56⅛	55⅝
Cons Bathurst	28⅝	26⅝
Gulf Oil	17⅛	16⅝
Hawker/Sid Can	16⅝	16⅝
Imasco	32⅛	32⅛
Imperial Oil	36⅝	35⅞
Int Pipe	29	28½
Mass.-Fergsn	4⅛	4⅛
Royal Trustco	26⅛	26⅝
Seagram	43	41⅞
Steel Co	27½	27⅛
Thomson N 'A'	37½	37½
Walker Hiram	25⅝	25½
WCT	14½	14½

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5½%: £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%: £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

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APPOINTMENTS

Security post for McNee

Clydesdale Security Systems: Sir David McNee, former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, has become non-executive chairman of the company.

Tesco: Mr Dennis Tuffin, director of Tesco Stores, and head of Tesco's retail operations will join the board of Tesco on April 1.

London Permanent Building Society: Mr John Gifford Mead has resigned as chairman but remains on the board. His place as chairman is being taken by Mr John Grande.

The J D Williams Group: Mr Jim Martin has been appointed managing director and has also joined the main board of N Brown Investments, the group's parent company. He takes over as managing director from Mr D T Hand, who will remain as chairman of the J D Williams Group, and a director of N Brown Investments. Mr Robert Yates has become merchandise director of the trading companies within the J D Williams Group.

Gill & Duffus Group: Mr John S Barnes, a director, has been appointed deputy chief executive and will succeed Mr R E Blackman as chief executive on the latter's retirement on June 30. Mr Winthrop A Wyman has joined the board and will be responsible for the group's activities in the United States.

F International Group: Mr D L Davies is appointed chairman. Mr T L Bayliss becomes finance director. Mrs Steve Shirley becomes group chief executive officer and Mr Bryan E Mills and Mr George G Zahler become group directors, F International. Mr B E Mills becomes a director, F International Limited, FI Services: Mr George Zahler becomes a director, F International Group, and chairman of the export/overseas operating company, FI Services.

MCD Group: Mr Douglas Joll and Mr Robert Brazier have joined the board.

Miller Group: Mr Graeme R C Scott has been made group financial director ands a member of the board of the parent company, James Miller & Partners. Mr D W R Adams has become sales and marketing director for Miller Homes Northern. Mr R C D Wilkins has been appointed director and general manager of Miller Homes Southern.

The Update Group: Dr John Thomas has become managing director.

Frances Williams and Peter Wilson-Smith outline Chancellor's possible next move

Now Lawson may go gunning for banks

The banks may have gained only a Pyrrhic victory from the Government's decision last week to squeeze more tax out of the building societies, their fiercest rivals, through changing the rules on profits from gilt-edged stocks.

Each privilege removed from the societies in their attempt to become more like banks threatens to focus the spotlight more keenly on the banks themselves.

Now the Budget is only a fortnight away the City is full of speculation that the Chancellor has his sights fixed on the banking sector. It is perhaps significant that the Treasury has declined to discourage the speculators.

The banks have been threatened for some time. They are unpopular, highly profitable and pay little tax – in other words, a prime target for any revenue-hungry government.

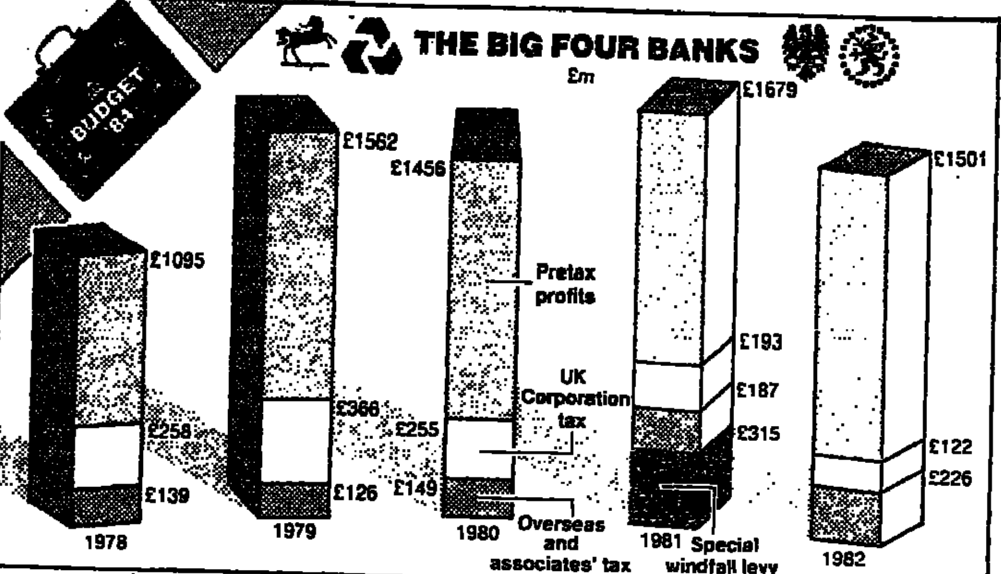
The windfall levy on deposits imposed in 1981 made ministers' intentions clear. Sir Geoffrey Howe said in his 1982 Budget that in future, the Treasury would be seeking permanent ways of ensuring "a sufficient contribution to tax revenue from the banking sector".

A study of how that might be done – broadened to include all financial services – was completed in late 1982 but was left to gather dust as the storm clouds of the international debt crisis darkened. "It would not, this year, be sensible to tighten the tax regime for banks", Sir Geoffrey conceded last year, leaving little doubt that this respite was only temporary.

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor, was one of the main advocates of the original windfall tax. He lost no time in asking his officials to reopen the file last summer. Soon after, anticipating the worst, the banks revived their "fighting" committee chaired by Sir Eric Faulkner, president of the British Bankers' Association.

Mr Lawson's hint in November that taxes might have to rise this spring intensified their fears, as the experts helpfully suggested that a bank tax would be a relatively painless way of raising the extra money. Even though the Chancellor is no longer threatening a higher overall tax burden he will not have overlooked the possibility that additional revenue from the banks would enable him to cut taxes elsewhere.

The Treasury has three possible reasons for wanting more revenue from the banks. The first is that they are making big profits in this country on which they pay hardly any tax. This mainly reflects their growing leasing business which enables them to set off capital allowances for machinery and equipment against tax liabilities, with the result that they can shelter virtually all their mainstream British corporation tax.



The banks argue that most of the tax benefits they receive from leasing are passed to their customers. A study by the independent Institute for Fiscal Studies*, commissioned by the Midland Bank, lent support to this view.

It found that on average 80 per cent of the benefits were passed on, chiefly to manufacturing industry. The IFS also concluded that banks were not especially profitable. "There is no evidence of a discrepancy between rates of return in banking and in other sectors," it said, reviewing the evidence of the 10 years to 1981.

Conceivably the Treasury could try to restrict the amount of tax banks were allowed to shelter through leasing. But leasing now accounts for about a sixth of all manufacturing investment (a quarter in 1982) and the banks have the lion's share because they can claim the capital allowances and hand over the gain to companies whose profits are too low to make use of the allowances themselves. The Treasury is only too aware that a curb on leasing could hurt manufacturers as much, or more than the banks.

Secondly the Treasury might wish to use the tax system to restrain bank lending, especially consumer lending, in the interests of monetary control.

A tax on consumer credit, excluding mortgages, could have its attractions. But in equity the Treasury would be hard put to justify the singling out of credit advanced by banks alone, while the evidence suggests that people's demand for credit is not in any event very sensitive to cost.

The Treasury's final line of attack is more sophisticated. It is that the banks deprive the Exchequer and revenues on two counts: the notional interest paid on current accounts escapes income tax; and bank charges, like all financial services, are exempt from

‘Free banking is, in effect, a huge officially sanctioned tax avoidance device’

value-[illegible] pean [illegible] regula[illegible]

"Fr[illegible] notion[illegible] bank [illegible] gigantic [illegible] sanctioned tax avoidance [illegible]

However, the Government faces [illegible] to devise a workable permanent [illegible] tax be make good this revenue loss that does not [illegible] tions [illegible] effects of its own.

A [illegible] levy [illegible] the T[illegible] rationale [illegible] longer applies. The "endowment" effect of high interest rates on bank profits has dwindled and bank base rates of 9 per cent now roughly match the cost of servicing current accounts.

Domestic competition, notably from the building societies, and the need to provide against bad debt at home as well as overseas, have made further inroads into profits. Indeed, Professor Harold Rose, economic adviser to Barclays Bank, recently suggested that if the Treasury used the same logic as in 1981 the banks should be in line for a repayment of the levy this time round.

There have also been suggestions that the Chancellor might decide to bring back stamp duty on cheques, and perhaps on other debits and credit card transactions as well, as a quid pro quo for abolishing stamp duty on share deals. A 2p levy could raise £80m a year from the banks alone but would be [illegible] their wages paid directly into bank accounts [illegible] The IFS study points out that [illegible] the EEC objection to VAT on financial services is on practical rather than principled grounds – that it has proved too difficult in the past to disentangle charges for services in banks' accounts.

This could be tackled in several ways. The banks could simply be told to introduce full bank charges, with interest being paid on current accounts, a move commended last year by the National Consumer Council.

The charges would be taxed at, say, the VAT rate of 15 per cent and deducted from the account while customers would pay income tax on the interest. Tax receipts on interest income could equal or exceed the revenue from the financial services tax. Even if banks paid the present deposit account rate of 5.5 per cent on curret balances, the Exchequer would gain an extra £330m.

The Government could produce the same effect another way by taxing the notional interest credited to current accounts. This would almost certainly force the banks to introduce market-related interest payments on current accounts for fear of losing business to other financial institutions.

A less bothersome but crude alternative, suggested in some quarters of the City, would be to impose a straight pay roll tax on the banks as a broad approximation to a task on banking services.

The political and financial complexities of taxing the banking sector further make it most unlikely that the Budget will contain firm proposals for raising extra revenue in 1984-85.

There could be problems with our EEC partners over any VAT-style tax. It would also be logical to tie in the introduction of a financial services tax with any additional changes the Government plans for financial services, particulary the extension to the banks of the building society composite rate system for deducting basic income tax at source.

Whichever route the Government [illegible]

*Studies in Bank Taxation [illegible]

Eglinton to explore Colombia resources

The Dublin-based Eglinton Oil and Gas has begun a seismic programme on its San Sebastian prospect near Lorica in the Republic of Colombia, South America. It plans to drop 268 probes and evaluate them within two months.

The company said yesterday: "Recent surface work by Eglington's geologists in Colombia have indicated that the San Sebastian anticline may encompass a larger area than originally anticipated."

On Friday shareholders will be asked to approve a placing of 500,000 shares to raise about £1.5m, to be followed by a subdivision of the total capital from 20p to 5p shares.

In brief

● **FII Group:** Six months to November 30, 1983. Intm div 1.875p (1.54p) waiver on 1.095 million shares. Figures in £000. External sales 6,021 (4,851). Profit before tax 574 (326). Tax 236 (145). Extraord dbt 61 (14). EPS 8.3p (4.5p).

In the manufacturing division, there was further expansion in both production and sales at the Fiona footwear factories in Wales and this trend continues.

Merchandising division sales were better in the half year.

In medical division, the company increased its equity stake in Thinotherm to 76 per cent. The sales campaign for the Rhinotherm cold and allergy alleviation device is now starting. Other companies in the division are beginning to trade. Additional setting-up costs of £46,000 net are included in extraordinary expenditure.

In the retail division, the company's Swansea store, has done well and this month, the company opened another store in Pyle, Mid Glamorgan. The factory shops at Port Talbot and Bridgend have been closed.

The company now has two substantial retail outlets in Wales which should make a worthwhile contribution to the group's profit.

[illegible] quiet confidence in the year's results.

● **Headlam, Sims & Coggins:** Headlam has completed the purchase of Carter Pocock, a wholesaler of sports and general footwear. On December 31 1983 Carter has net assets of [illegible] and has incurred trading losses over the past four [illegible] Despite its annual turnover [illegible] Carter is not expected to make a significant contribution to profits in Headlam's current financial year. However, given a rationalization of both companies overheads and competing product lines, it is expected that Carter will make a material contribution in the year to January 31, 1986.

Price of the shares of Carter is £11,000 cash. HS has agreed to fund the repayment of £274,000 of Carter's borrowings, as to one half now and the other on December 31 this year

Mr Nicholas Carter, who has been with Carter Pocock for the past 14 years, has entered into a two-year service contract with HS.

● **Hanover Inv (Hldgs) / Sunlight:** Hanover and Sunlight Service Group has announced the disposal by Hanover to National Sunlight Laundries, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sunlight, of the whole issue capital of Hanover's wholly-owned subsidiary Brookgreen Launderers and drycleaners and Worship Investments for £214,000 cash.

Total net tangible assets of the companies on February 28, 1983 were £121,000 and there has been no material change since that date. Pretax profit for the year ended last February was £33,295 on a turnover of £1.2m.

In addition, a small freehold shop related to the above business was also sold by Hanover to National Sunlight Laundries for a further £25,000.

Hanover will use the proceeds in the expansion and development of its existing range of businesses.

● **RTZ subsidiary:** Rio Algom Toronto and National Distillers and Chemical Corporation of New York here announced that negotiations are continuing for the sale by National Distillers to Rio Algom of the metal service centre business of Vincent Brass and Aluminium Co.

Vincent Brass operates ten metal service centres principally in the Mid-West and South-East of the United States. Principal products distributed are brass, copper, aluminium, stainless steel, carbon steel, coated steel products and fasteners. Sales in 1983 were $145.0m.

● **Whitbread & Co:** Whitbread investment company has bought 36,000 'B' ordinary shares and now holds 8,801,930 'B' ordinary shares (53.04 per cent).

● **Ellis & Everard:** A. J. Everard, a director, has exercised a share option and acquired 6,276 ordinary shares and now holds 433,648 ordinary shares (3.414 per cent).



Ferguson Lacey buys Finlan stake

By Jeremy Warner

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey, the controversial financier who left the City scene in the summer of 1982, has reemerged with a 15 per cent shareholding in the tiny listed property development company, John Finlan.

It is Mr Ferguson Lacey's first investment in a quoted British company since the collapse during 1982 of plans to merge his NCC Energy with Simplicity Pattern in the United States. Soon after, his private investment company Birmingham and Midland Counties Trust, was put into receivership.

Mr Fergusson Lacey bought the Finlan stake through Amadeus, the Bermudan investment vehicle he set up last April with backing from some friends in the City. The seller was Mr Stewart Jamieson, who will step down as chairman after only six months.

Mr John Finlan, the company's founder, said yesterday that he welcomed Mr Ferguson Lacey's involvement and that there would be wide ranging discussions with Amadeus about cooperation.

Mr Ferguson Lacey may also become a director of the group, Mr Finlan said.

A spokesman for Amadeus said that Finlan was a well-managed and significantly undervalued company. "There is an ideal base from which to expand Finlan's activities in property development and construction," he said.

On the stock market yesterday, Finlan's shares jumped 15p to 188p on news of Mr Ferguson Lacey's involvment. At this level the company is valued at £5.6m.

In his heyday, Mr Ferguson Lacey's business empire was wide and diverse and he used to announce deals at the rate of more than one a week. He once talked about a bid for Mr Tiny Rowland's Lonrho.

Confident start for Continental

By Vivien Goldsmith

Continental Microwave, which manufactures and designs advanced electronics for the communications, defence and broadcasting industries, has reported half-time pretax profits of £201,000 for the six months to the end of 1983.

The first-half figures for the Luton based company are an unreliable guide to full-time results. Last year the company made pretax profits of £407,000 but half-time profits were £42,000.

The company's shares, which are quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, rose 40p to a new high of 440p.

Turnover for the first half rose from £1.04m to £2.53m and with orders worth £6.7m already in the book at the end of the year prospects have further improved with several new contracts including a major order from British Telecom.

Third rights issue at Allied Computer

By Our City Staff

Allied Computer Techniques, which makes the successful Apricot Computer, is raising £17.2m with a one-for-four rights issue of 3,369,093 shares at 530p per share.

After rights issues in 1982 and last year, Mr Lindsay Bury, the chairman, said that there would be no more for two years unless there was "runaway growth" – and this has happened. Sales for the 12 months to March this year are expected to be about £50m, more than double the previous year, and are expected to double again to £100m next year.

"It is our plan to have annual rights issues, but we need a strong working capital working base, and we want to avoid going back for dribbles," Mr Bury said.

The company has been prudent in maintaining cash reserves. It has not spent all the £6m raised by last year's rights issue. Production of the Apricot microcomputer at Glenrothes, Fife, is on schedule, and the popularity of the model has meant that 70 per cent of orders come with cash.

The company want to maintain a high cash balance to expand exports, to have the facility to offer credit to customers, and to expand manufaturing capacity.

Mr Bury also believes it is important to show a healthy balance sheet to suppliers.

Allied is forecasting pretax profits of £4.5m for this year after writing off all developments costs. On the basis of this forecast the directors intend to recommend a final dividend of 1.7p on the enlarged capital, making a total of 2.2p for the year.

Earnings per share have grown in spite of the rights issues and the company expects this to continue. The shares were up 35p at 64p.

No freeze on performance bond

Potton Homes Ltd v Coleman Contractors (Overseas) Ltd

Before Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice May

[Judgment delivered February 24]

In the absence of circumstances justifying the grant of an injunction on Mareva principles, to freeze the assets of a litigant, it was an error to make an order preventing a party from receiving the proceeds of a performance bond.

The Court of Appeal, in reserved judgments, allowed an appeal by the defendants, Coleman Contractors (Overseas) Ltd, against a decision of Judge Hawser, QC, sitting as an official referee, that £68,816, due to the defendants under a performance bond given by the plaintiffs, Potton Homes Ltd, should be paid into a joint account of the parties' solicitors, pending the trial of the action.

Mr Peter Cresswell, QC and Mr Andrew Hillier for the defendants; Mr Nicholas Phillips, QC and Mr Gerald Barling for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH said that the plaintiffs and defendants were English companies. On October 6, 1981 the plaintiffs agreed to supply the defendants with prefabricated building units to be shipped to Libya. That was followed by two similar agreements dated January 11, 1982 and May 18, 1982. The respective purchase prices were £331,000, £688,169, £297,415.

Provision was made for payment by instalments at various stages in the performance of the contracts. In respect of each contract the plaintiffs gave an advance payment, a guarantee and a performance bond.

It was admitted that £89,621 was due under the three contracts. The plaintiffs also claimed just over £140,000 for extras and variations to the second contract and some other items. The defendants conceded £3,300 of that but disputed the other items and said that the alleged extras were comprised within the contract.

The defendants alleged a number of defects in the houses delivered and made a demand upon the performance bond which was for £68,816. The plaintiffs then obtained an interim injunction restraining the defendants from calling upon that bond. They applied for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Judge Hawser found that the plaintiffs were entitled to judgment for the sum of £89,621. He said that the defendants had raised a counter-claim which they were entitled to pursue.

He ordered a stay of execution in respect of the £89,621 on which he had given judgment. In relation to the performance bond the judge held that he had no power to restrain the defendants from making a call upon it.

Having considered evidence as to the defendants' financial position, he concluded that the case was not an appropriate one for an injunction based upon the Mareva principles.

Then he said: "Nevertheless I think that in all the circumstances existing here, including the undoubted entitlement of the plaintiffs to over £89,000 ... it would not be right for the defendants at this stage to be paid the sum of £68,000 and to be free to do with it as they wish. I think that the position of both parties should be frozen until the issues in the action can be tried."

He concluded that he had power to order a freeze under Order 29, rule 2(1). He regarded the defendants' claim against the bank as being in the nature of a chose in action and therefore "property" within the meaning of that rule. He ordered that the money should be paid into a joint account in the names of the solicitors for both parties.

The defendants contended that demand performance bonds were virtually promissory notes payable on demand and that similar principles applied to first demand performance bonds and letters of credit.

While it was true to say that the courts in many countries had shown great reluctance to interfere with the rights of a buyer under a demand performance bond, his Lordship did not think that the law could be seen to have developed upon mutually held underlying principles so as to give rise to a rule of international law in relation to set-off or attachment.

Unlike the letter of credit the bond was in its infancy although it was developing rapidly. There were several features of the bond which had not yet been universally established. One was the extent to which it was to be regarded as independent of the underlying contract.

While from the point of view of the bank the underlying contract was irrelevant and the bank's contract with the seller was independent of it, nonetheless as between buyer and seller the underlying contract might not be irrelevant.

Therefore, while the proposition as to set-off and attachment was correct in English law in relation to letters of credit, his Lordship could not accept that according to international law the same rule applied to performance bonds without authority for the proposition.

As between buyer and seller the underlying contract could not be disregarded so readily. If the seller had lawfully avoided the contract *prima facie* he should be entitled to restrain the buyer from making use of the performance bond. Moreover, in principle, it was not possible to say that in no circumstances whatsoever, apart from fraud, would the court restrain the buyer.

The facts of each case had to be considered. If the contract was avoided or if there was a failure of consideration between buyer and seller for which the seller undertook to procure the issue of the performance bond, there was no reason why as between seller and buyer the seller should be unable to prevent a call upon the bond by the mere assertion that the bond was to be treated as cash in hand.

His Lordship would wish at least to leave it open for consideration how far the bond was to be treated as cash in hand as between buyer and seller. It was sufficient to say he did not think that the court was restrained by authority to say that it had no jurisdiction to consider that matter under section 37 of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

The plaintiffs had argued that if the judge was wrong in holding that he had power under Order 29, rule 2, to make the order which he did then he could have made that or some other order in the exercise of his power under section 37 or by virtue of his inherent jurisdiction.

The court's power under section 37 was very wide. It applied to interlocutory and to final orders. The judge did not consider the exercise of his jurisdiction under section 37. Consequently the Court was free to do so.

It was not possible to say that there had been a complete failure of consideration for the issue of the bond. The total purchase price under the three agreements was about £1,300,000. The court was concerned with a failure to pay some £89,000 which the defendants in effect contended that they had the right to withhold because larger sums were due to them from the plaintiffs.

Thus the court was asked to exercise its discretion to prevent a call upon the bond on the basis that the general state of accounts between the parties might show that overall the defendants would owe them money.

It could not be said that the plaintiffs had proved that there were no breaches of the original contract and that a demand would therefore be faudulent. Their Lordships had therefore to proceed upon the basis that apart from the state of accounts between the parties the plaintiffs could raise no objection to a demand upon the bond.

One of the objects of giving the bonds was that the defendants should be entitled to obtain the money without first establishing the breaches upon which they relied. It had not been shown that the considerations relied upon by the plaintiffs made it right for the court to order what in effect would be a variation of the terms of the parties' agreement in relation to the bond.

There were therefore no grounds for saying that the defendants should not be entitled to obtain their money in accordance with the intention of the parties as expressed in their agreement.

LORD JUSTICE MAY, agreeing, said that the first point was whether it was correct in law to treat first demand bonds, such the one for £68,816 in the present case, in the same way as irrevocable letters of credit and thus effectively as cash in hand. In his Lordship's opinion such bonds were to be so treated.

It might be that they had not been in use as a form of commercial paper for as long as letters of credit, but that they should be treated in the irrevocable nature of the obligation assumed by the relevant bank in such cases.

Accordingly, the judge was correct in holding as he did that as a matter of law the defendants were entitled to demand payment of the bond and that the bank was bound to pay.

Order 29, rule 2(1) on its proper construction was designed to enable the court to preserve until trial the subject matter of litigation *in specie*: it could not be used to freeze cash in the hands of a party, even though the source of that cash could readily be identified and was perhaps directly connected with the other claims and counterclaims in the action.

In the instant case, if the circumstances were not such as to justify the grant of an injunction on Mareva principles then the judge erred in attempting to freeze the proceeds of the performance bond.

Solicitors: Sacker & Partners; Laytons.

Minister strained the meaning of 'conduct'

Regina v Secretary of State for Social Services and Another, Ex parte the Official Custodian of Charities and Others

The "conduct of a community home" in section 40(1) of the Child Care Act 1980 had to be given its natural and ordinary meaning by reference to the way in which a community home was being conducted and could not be strained in its interpretation to embrace a situation where no home was being conducted on the particular premises, Mr Justice Mann held on February 27 giving a reserved judgment quashing the decision of the secretary of state on May 25, 1983 and order made on July 8, 1983 that premises at Rowley Park, Stafford, should not be used for the purposes of a community home.

HIS LORDSHIP said that when the decision was made, the home had been closed for 26 months because its accommodation was surplus to the requirements of the local authority, but it remained a controlled community home and could not be used for any other purpose.

It could not be said that a home that was empty was a home the conduct of which was not in accordance with regulations made by the secretary of state under section 39 of the Act, or was otherwise unsatisfactory; nor was its conduct unsatisfactory because the managers had refused any new admissions to it. Therefore, the secretary of state could not have found the preconditions to an exercise of his power under section 40(1) of the Act.

Joint tenant cannot pledge home alone

Thames Guaranty Ltd v Campbell and Others

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Slade

[Judgment delivered February 23]

Where a joint tenant, without the consent of the other tenant, deposited title deeds with a creditor by way of security for his debts such a deposit might not give rise to an equitable charge against the entirety or the beneficial interest of the depositee.

However, the doctrine of partial performance would apply, subject to exception for hardship, if the depositee made a promise to charge more than he had power to charge.

The Court of Appeal, in a reserved judgment, dismissed an appeal by Thames Guaranty Ltd against an order of Mr Justice Mann dated May 12, 1983 (*The Times*, May 18) whereby Thames Guaranty were ordered to deliver up to the fourth defendant, Mrs Laural May Campbell, the land certificate of the property known as 10 Holmewood Gardens, Brixton, London, held in the joint names of the first defendant, Mr Theophillus Count Campbell and Mrs Campbell. It was further ordered that the charges register of the title of the property should be rectified by cancellation of the notice of deposit of the land certificate with Thames Guaranty.

Mr John Boggis for Thames Guaranty; Mr A. V. B. Bartlett for Mrs Campbell; the other defendants took no part in the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the real issue was whether Thames Guaranty were entitled to an equitable charge on the beneficial interest, if any, of Mr Campbell under the statutory trust for sale affecting a property which was the matrimonial home of Mr and Mrs Campbell and the freehold title of it had since 1973 been registered in their joint names at the Land Registry.

Thames Guaranty formerly carried on business as bankers. Between August 1972 and March 1976 they granted four overdraft facilities to Mr Campbell. Those arrangements involved, *inter alia*, the deposit by Mr Campbell of the land certificate for the property with Thames Guaranty in June 1973.

That deposit was made without the consent of Mrs Campbell and she did not even become aware of it until some years later. Thames Guaranty, however, asserted that the arrangements had created a charge in equity on the beneficial interest, if any, of Mr Campbell in the property.

On April 30, 1974, Thames Guaranty registered a notice of deposit of land certificate at the Land Registry. They also obtained security for Mr Campbell's borrowing by two guarantees. On March 22, 1976, Thames Guaranty went into liquidation and a liquidator was appointed.

In support of Thames Guaranty's appeal, the argument of Mr Boggis had been essentially based on two propositions: (i) that the facility letters agreed to by Mr Campbell gave rise to specifically enforceable contracts, each of which created an immediate equitable charge over his beneficial interest; and (ii) that in any event the deposit of the land certificate had the same effect.

The facility letters, especially the one dated May 24, 1973, did not purport to create an immediate charge on anything. In its context, Mr Campbell's signature on the May 1973 letter amounted to a promise by him that Thames Guaranty should be given an equitable charge on the freehold title to the property which would be effected by virtue of the contemplated deposit of the land certificate.

If Mr Campbell had been the sole proprietor of the property at the time when the title deeds were sent to Thames Guaranty on June 1, 1973, there could have been no possible answer to a claim by Thames Guaranty that, at least as from that date, an effective equitable charge on the freehold title was created in their favour. On June 1, however, Mr Campbell had not obtained the consent of his co-proprietor to the creation of any charge nor had he given a notice of severance of joint tenancy. There was therefore, no possibiliy that the facility letter of May 24, 1973, gave rise to an equitable charge on the freehold title, even after the deposit of the land certificate had been made.

What then was the effect of the agreements under which Mr Campbell promised to charge more than he had power to charge?

It was a well established principle of equity that where, in the course of concluding a contract, a person had represented that he could grant a certain property, or was entitled to a certain interest in that property, and it later appeared that there was a deficiency in his title or interest, the other party could obtain an order compelling him to grant what he had got, and in an appropriate case, to submit to a reduction of the consideration for the grant ("the doctrine of partial performance"). *Prima facie* the doctrine applied to the agreement by Mr Campbell contained in the facility letter of May 24, 1973, and the judge so accepted, but found himself unable to apply it in favour of Thames Guaranty because of an exception to the general principle which would be referred to in this judgment as "the hardship exception".

In the present case, the judge regarded the hardship exception as presenting the only obstacle in Thames Guaranty's path when they asserted that they were entitled to an equitable charge on Mr Campbell's beneficial interest in the property by virtue of the doctrine of partial performance. But he considered it an insuperable obstacle.

He accepted the submission made on behalf of Mrs Campbell that, if an order for partial performance were made in Thames Guaranty's favour, so as to confirm the existence of the asserted charge, that would prejudice Mrs Campbell's right as a joint tenant to the occupation of the matrimonial home: she would be exposed to the risk of proceedings by Thames Guaranty as persons interested under section 30 of the Law of Property Act 1925, and such proceedings, the judge said, would be very likely to result in an order for sale.

A sale, he observed, would be very serious for her, since at the age of 61, she resided in the property with Mr Campbell, also her youngest son aged 22, and on occasion her three young grandchildren. Neither Mr nor Mrs Campbell had any income apart from the state retirement pension, and she had virtually no capital assets other than her share in the house.

In all the circumstances, his Lordship was satisfied that when the competing equities were considered, the hardship that Mrs Campbell, as an innocent third party, would suffer if an order were made for partial performance of the agreements for a charge would far outweigh the hardship that Thames Guaranty would suffer if such an order were refused.

They had largely been the architects of their own misfortune, in failing to require Mr Campbell to perfect the charge which he had agreed to give them, after they had acquired full knowledge of his wife's interest.

Finally, his Lordship briefly considered Mr Boggis's alternative argument based on the deposit with Thames Guaranty of the land certificate on behalf of Mr Campbell. Even if Mr Campbell had had a beneficial interest in the property, he would not have been entitled to part with the land certificate without the consent of Mrs Campbell as joint owner of the legal estate.

In agreement with the judge, his Lordship considered that Mrs Campbell had at all times been entitled to request the return of the land certificate to the joint custody of herself and Mr Campbell.

Solicitors: Lieberman Leigh & Co; Howard Thomas & Petrou, Norwood.

Believing statements in affidavits

Bremar Holdings Ltd v de Roth

Before Mr Justice Beldam

[Judgment delivered February 22]

It was not a correct exposition of the function of the court on the hearing of an application for summary judgment, under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, that it was to give credence to every statement in affidavits however incredible.

Mr Justice Beldam so stated in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing an appeal by the defendant, Peter Urban de Roth, and allowing a cross-appeal by the plaintiffs, Bremar Holdings Ltd, against an order of Master Grant on November 22, 1983, whereby, on the plaintiffs' application for summary judgment for £266,151, he gave the defendant leave to defend upon payment into court of £70,000.

Mr Gabriel Moss for the defendant; Mr Mark Pelling for the plaintiffs.

MR JUSTICE BELDAM, delivering a reserved chambers judgment in open court, said that he had given the defendant leave to file an affidavit of means, which had been unavailable to the Master, in support of the defendant's case that he should have been granted unconditional leave to defend because he was incapable of fulfilling the condition imposed which effectively deprived him of the opportunity of presenting his defence.

The plaintiffs cross-appealed contending that they should have been given judgment.

The evidence of means was available to the defendant and his advisers at the time of the hearing before the Master, but was not disclosed to him.

Where a defendant's advisers were in possession of information which would preclude the Master from considering the grant of leave to defend on the imposition of a condition that a substantial sum was brought into court, the facts should be before the Master.

The plaintiffs having commenced proceedings for summary judgment, the defendant filed an affidavit containing statements raising three issues which were relied on as providing defences to the action. Of those issues two clearly provided no defence.

Even accepting the defendant's affidavit statements at face value, the remaining issue disclosed no defence and the plaintiffs were accordingly entitled to judgment.

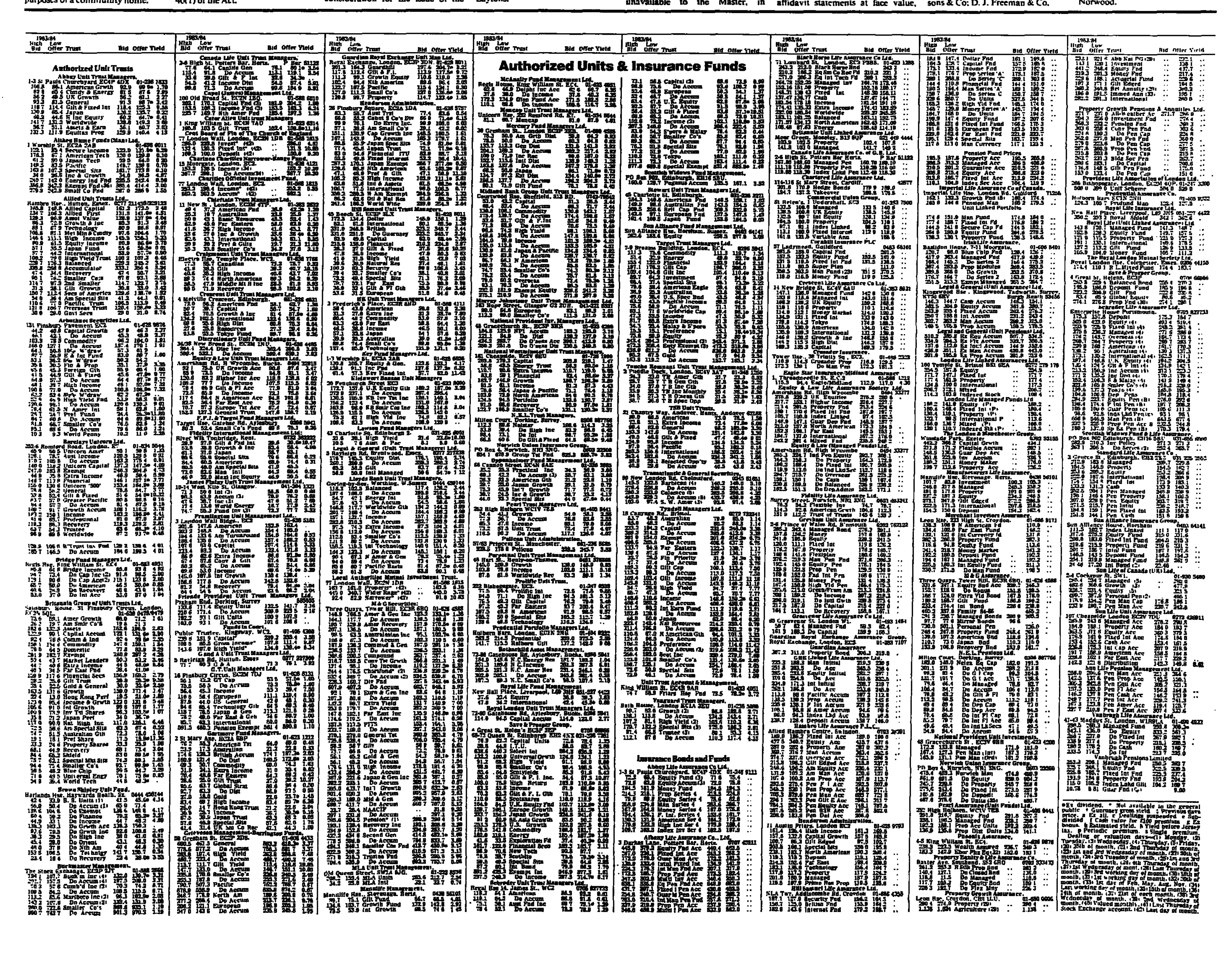
Assuming that that was wrong, the plaintiffs' documentary evidence cast such doubt upon the validity of the defendant's documents and affidavit statements in support of the third suggested defence, that his Lordship found the affidavit incredible, or almost incredible, by reason of its inherent implausibility or inconsistency with the documents.

Even had his Lordship not been of the opinion that no defence was disclosed, he would have held that the affidavit statements were not sufficiently credible to raise an issue or question in dispute which ought to be tried.

The line dividing a triable issue, albeit shadowy, from no issue, was a fine one which in every case was a matter of opinion based upon an assessment of the sufficiency of the facts alleged and the supporting evidence.

In the present case the alleged defence fell upon the wrong side of the line.

Solicitors: Alsop Stevens Batesons & Co; D. J. Freeman & Co.



Authorized Unit Trusts

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

David Miller on Michel Hidalgo, the football manager who puts glory before victory

Mild-mannered inspiration who stands as epitome of the French way of sport

"Good Morning. How is your wife? I hope your children are well." Thus is Michel Hidalgo apt to greet one of his more severe press critics, with the equanimity of Dixon of Dock Green: a placid refusal to be baited, which further antagonises those who claim he lacks character, yet assures him of national popularity.

The critics say that he is a tap of permanently luke-warm water; that the only time he ever showed emotion was when Spanish policeman in Valladolid stopped him going on the pitch to protest at Shaikh Fahid's touchline intervention and his 5ft 7in of indignation nearly started swinging punches.

Hidalgo, France's international football manager for the past two World Cup competitions, epitomises that enviable French concept of sport which holds that it is preferable to finish second with style than first with expediency, panonymity or even acrimony. Why else did the French for years adore the aspiring Raymond Poulidor in the Tour de France, rather than five-times winner Jacques Anquetil?

Such is the national character's yearning for glory rather than mere victory that the wrenching, tumultous semi-final against West Germany in Seville culminating in agonizing defeat on penalties, gained the entire team a greater prestige than if they had they won and indifferently lost the final.

"To calculate like the Italians is not sport," Hidalgo said yesterday, as his squad prepared at Egly outside Paris, for their meeting tomorrow with England at the Parc des Princes. "That style is impossible for the French nature and spirit. I am impressed with Italy's ability to combine creation with descipline, but what they achieved in the second half of the World Cup final was largely because Conti threw off his obligations to tactical discipline."

He is an intelligent man, with penetrating, deep blue eyes and neat, sensitive hands, and was an old-fashioned wing half with Rheims under the management of Albert Batteux, who guided the memorable World Cup side of Kopa and Fontaine in 1958. Never have France won an international or club title. Rheims and St Etienne lost European finals with typical, extravagent flourishes against Real and boring Bayern respectively.

Hidalgo made his name by leading France back to the World Cup finals in 1977, after a gap of eleven years, with the defeat of Bulgaria; and then in Buenos Aires when his side's marvellous performance against Argentina was betrayed only by a Canadian linesman's distant, controversial penalty decision against the luckless Tresor. In 1981, Hidalgo's team qualified for Spain, defeating the Netherlands in Paris with a dare-devil attacking front six: Platini, Giresse, and Genghini in midfield, Rocheteau, Lacombe and Six up front.


Hidalgo . . . style is the man

The mercurial Platini, who with 17 goals from 21 games, leading Calcio scorer for Juventus together with Zico, and little Giresse will be there tomorrow with Tigana, hoping to reverse the World Cup result in Bilbao which flattered Ron Greenwood's prospects two years ago.

Hidalgo thinks this may be the best yet of his three four-yearly squads – though after the European Championship he will hand over to Henri Michel, the long-serving midfield international from Nantes, who now manages the (professional) Olympic team – trying to qualify for Los Angeles.

"In 1978 we had a lot of ability, but not much international experience," says Hidalgo. "Then in 1982 we had more experience. Yet in international football, compared with a club team, the side grows progressively all the time as a competition develops. Now we have a marriage of outstanding players and experience: we will find out this summer whether we have a championship team or not."

He emphatically denies that the European Championship is more important than the World Cup, even though France are hosts. "It maybe here on our doorstep, but the teams competing are still only form Europe."

Many managers pay lip service to the need to protect the quality of the game, but few avoid drifting into contemporary tactical expediency. Hidalgo refuses. When France led 3-1 in extra time against West Germany, they still, like Brazil when they were 2-2 against Italy, continued to attack. He sees his role as far more than winning a match: France have their own character, he argues, and when you can bring the way of life into football, "that's fantastic".

He has worked patiently over eight and a half years at bringing his players to believe that this is the way they themselves want to play, and has never been pressurized by the public or press into taking decisions in which he did not believe. "There are times when the mood is heavy with responsibility, but the coach's job is to reduce the drama, to help the players to realize that it is only a game which will come and go in a couple of days.

Tomorrow he will probably play with four men in midfield – Fernandez of Paris Saint Gernmain, Platini, Giresse and Tigana – not for defensiveness, but because he is short of top-class strikers and besides Platini has another goal-scorer in midfield Giresse, who has 15 goals this season in 21 matches. Hidalgo does all he can to prevent systems dominating individuals.

"As I grew up in football, I realized we carried a game which had, and had to have the beauty and virtue and justice of sport. I am against all injustice, even in arranging the draw for tournaments. Chance is beautiful. If the public becomes bored, it will go eslewhere."

RUGBY LEAGUE

Bradford's men risk their tour prospects

By Keith Macklin

The action of Bradford Northern in withdrawing their players from Great Britain squad training nights is putting the players' Australian tour places in jeopardy.

This was the view of the tour manager, Dick Gammell, yesterday after Northern had told the Great Britain coach, Frank Myler, that players would not be available for the next three Tuesday night sessions, beginning tonight.

Bradford claim their rearranged League fixture with Wigan and their forthcoming match in the third round of the Challenge Cup, make club training with their coach Peter Fox, vital.

Gemmell said yesterday: "The continued absence of the Bradford Northern players means that they will not be considered for the proposed game agianst Other Nationalities, and their tour places could be placed in jeopardy."

Neil Holding, the St. Helens half back, has been called up for Great Britain squad training after an outstanding game for St Helens against Hull in Saturday's Cup tie.

Alan Rathbone has appealed against the second match in his two-match suspension period. He served one last Sunday, and is sttempting to get clearance to play against Wigan on Thursday.

Blow for Thaler

The Kent Invicta scrum half Peter Thaler, who broke an arm in the Rugby League second division game against Batley, will be out for the rest of the season.

BASKETBALL

Two in trouble as Doncaster go down shouting

By Nicholas Harling

John Carr Doncaster may be going down but the Yorkshire club's descent into the second division of the National League, will be anything but meek on the evidence of Saturday's first division game with Bracknell Pirates. Doncaster lost not only the game by 112-68 but their American Frank Streater, who was disqualified and coach Mark Stevens, who was expelled from the court.

In his report to the English Basketball Association, Morris Wordsworth, Doncaster's chairman, made little secret of the fact that he blames the Leicester referee Robert Iliffe for the match getting out of hand.

Carefully choosing his words for fear of being accused of bringing the game into disrepute, Wordsworth added: "The refereeing left a lot to be desired."

There had certainly been several contentious calls before Streater showed his frustration at receiving his fourth foul after six minutes of the second half. The 6ft 8in American, who had scored 20 points hit the foot of Iliffe, who promptly disqualified him. Stevens, who had received two technical offences for complaining loudly at Iliffe's decisions, was later forced to leave the court when Fred Matthews, the club's manager, joined in the critocism.

Having lost to one of the teams in contention for a place in the National Championship play-offs at Wembley next month, Doncaster were then beaten on Sunday by another, FSO Cars Warrington. The home side succeeded in spite of the strained ankles suffered by two of their key players Jones and Penny. Fears that Jones had broken a leg were later dispelled by an X-ray examination.

Two defeats at the weekend cost them their last slim chance of reaching Wembley, the first one by 127-125 at home against Brighton.

Two periods of overtime and two scoresheets, which is almost unprecedented, were required before Brighton won the highest scoring game of the season after being six points adrift late in normal time. Sunderland, looking more like their normal selves after recovering from food poisoning, defeated Birmingham the following afternoon. Two Birmingham players, Hopkins and Owens, were penalised for technical offences during a physical encounter in which Sunderland could not quell Saunders, whose 51 points equalled the second highest individual score of the season. Wearren, the one Sunderland player to avoid the illness, finished with a weekend aggregate of 62 points, having helped his side defeat Ovaltine Hemel Hempstead the previous night at the start of a hectic four games in four days schedule.

The Great Britain Olympic squad will prepare in the United States for the Olympic qualifying tournament in France in May.

SQUAD: K Tatham, J Johnson, A Watson, (all Solent); S Hadwen, P Stewart, R Way, R Archibald, G Hill (all MIM, Edinburgh), D Lloyd, P Stimpson, M Spald, P Jeremich (all Crystal Palace), A Balogun (Bracknell), P Mullings (Sunderland), D Frame (Merrimack College, US).

Scots put emphasis on finesse

By Hugh Taylor

Jock Stein, the Scotland manager, has put the emphasis on class in the team he has selected to meet Wales at Hampden Park tonight in what will be the last of the home internationals between the countries. The midfield will bring appreciative smiles to the faces of those who yearn for the return of traditional Scottish style for the players are anything but were ball winners who rely more on muscle than brain.

There is a touch of yesterday about the three of McStay, Souness, and Bett, who at their elegant best can bring fluency to a side which has in the past been prone to overelaborate. The manager has also recalled Cooper, the Rangers winger who has been in sparkling form and who combines the artistry of a Jimmy Johnstone with the skill of a John White at slipping into the vacant space.

With a strike force laid low, because stalwarts are injured or out of favour with their clubs, Stein has paired McGarvey and Sturrock, honest workmen but hardly calculated to raise the drooping spirits of supporters who have seen even more distinguished attackers fail sadly. Johnstone, who has already made himself a glowing reputation as a goalscorer for Watford, will surely get his chance.

Wales, not unnaturally, come to Hampden with a grudge. "Yes, you can say that we'll be fighting a bit harder than usual", their manager, Mike England said. The added incentive is a burning desire to win the last match between the countries in the old tournament which will terminate at the end of the season, following the joint decision of the English and Scottish Football Associations to pull out.

Price of Spurs and Vaughan of Cardiff have been dropped from the team which drew 1–1 with Yugoslavia in December. Two former Swansea club colleagues, Charles (Queen's Park Rangers) and Curtis (Southampton), are brought in. At the back Charles partners Ratcliffe, who takes over the captaincy from Flynn.

SCOTLAND: I Leighton (Aberdeen); R Gough (Dundee United), A Albiston (Manchester United), G Souness (Liverpool, Capt), A McLeish (Aberdeen), W Miller (Aberdeen), P Sturrock (Dundee United), P McStay (Celtic), F McGarvey (Celtic), J Brett (Lokeren), D Cooper (Rangers).

WALES: N Southall (Everton); J Hopkins (Fulham), J Charles (QPR), K Ratcliffe (Everton, Capt), J Jones (Chelsea), R James (Stoke), S Flynn (Burnley), K Jackett (Watford), M Thomas (Chelsea), A Curtis (Southampton), I Rush (Liverpool), Subs: Dibble (Cardiff), P Price (Tottenham), N Vaughan (Cardiff), P Nicholas (Crystal Palace), G Davies (Fulham).

Thwarted this time, but Platini (foreground) emerged as match-winner

Moran's chance to fill gap

By Clive White

Given that success depends upon close understanding rather than individual inspiration – never more evident than at international level – England have knowingly made it more difficult for themselves to qualify for the semi-final round of the European Under-21 championship. Because the under-21 squad's chief purpose is as a reserve tank for the limousine, the players who might have given them a substantial lead against France tonight at Hillsborough in the first leg of the quarter-finals have been siphoned off. In the absence of Walsh and Stein, Luton's five-star forwards, Dave Sexton, the England Under-21 manager, has had to provide a new mixture in Steve Moran and Mark Hateley.

Moran, who has scored 12 goals in his last 13 games for Southampton, could consider himself unfortunate not to have joined the Luton duo in Paris for the senior's match with France tomorrow, even if this is only his first full cap at under-21 level he has made one appearance as substitute. At 23 he is one of two over-age players in the team (the other is Sterland, Hillsborough's local boy). His partner, Hateley, has five caps.

There is still no sign of a genuine No 6 or No 4 coming through the ranks, someone to play off the centre half. It is England's great weakness. With Wright's promotion to the seniors, Sexton brings back Watson to join Caton at the heart of defence. Both are splendid orthodox centre halves, but are only following in the fresh, young footsteps of the dependable Butcher.

The fourth change to the side which won convincingly 2-0 in Hungary last October is in midfield, where Hodge returns in place of McMahon. Though some of the components have changed, Sexton retains the same successful design with four man attack, Callaghan and Wallace providing the width.

England, who are the champions, have never failed to reach the semi-finals of this competition since its inception in 1976.

The opposition tonight, as viewed by both managers, is largely unknown. Neither side has played since the draw was made in January. The return leg will be in Rouen on March 28.

ENGLAND: G Bailey (Manchester United); M Sterland (Sheffield Wednesday), T Caton (Arsenal), P Bracewell (Sunderland), D Watson (Norwich City), G Stevens (Tottenham Hotspur), N Callaghan (Watford), S Moran (Southampton), M Hateley (Portsmouth), S Hodge (Nottingham Forest), D Wallace (Southampton).

FRANCE: P Olmeta (Bastia), Perard (Laval), B Bol (Auxerre), Pean (Lille); P Lestage (Tours), Adonkor (Nantes), D Bravo (Monaco), T Oleksiak (Saint-Etienne), J M Ferran (Auxerre), P Anziani (Sochaux), D Philippe (Nancy-Lorraine).

Manager makes his point but old master has the last word

WORLD FOOTBALL
Brian Glanville

Alfredo Stefano brusquely put his famous, long-serving Spanish international centre forward, Santillana, on the bench against Salamanca, to make room for Butragueno.

The more ironic, as Santillana has been most generous about Butragueno. "I believe he has fabulous qualities to succeed," he says. "He is fast an able with a good vision of play, an an incredibly ability in front of goal." But he added, more sombrely, that he hoped Butragueno would know how to cope with his success.

Butragueno laid on Real's opening goal against Barcelona for Juanito, a frequent scorer at the moment, after 16 minutes. Maradona – though subsequently injured – equalized 10 minutes after half-time. It was Santillana who had the last word. Substituting for Butragueno after 64 minutes, he scored the winner a quarter of an hour later, keeping Real on top of the league, and ending Barcelona's waning hopes of the title.

Juventus may be favourite for the Italian league, but they are already out of the cup, beaten by Bari of the third division, who won in Turin and drew with two penalties in Apulia.

Juventus's interests in the cup may be gauged by the remark made by their manager Trapattoni, after the game in Bari. The most important thing, he said, was that the game had not gone to extra time. After all, the derby match was coming up on the Sunday.

A couple of goals by the rampant Platini gave Juventus victory on Sunday over Torino. Roma, the champions, were held 2-2 at the Olympic Stadium by a much improved Lazio.

Batista, the Brazilian international, has at last found form, and Laudrup, the young Dane, played so well recently for Lazio against Juventus, who own him, that there was talk of his possible assumption by them. Juventus muttered that he needed more experience. Laudrup's father, the former Danish international, Finn, went with his son's agent to see Juventus last week. Laudrup says he has no intention of playing second division football next season; but Lazio may now well escape relegation.

Roma went two down to Lazio, both goals going to their long serving inside forward, D'Amico, one from the spot, but Manfredonia, who has lately been playing so well since his move from defence to midfield, was sent off for a dreadful foul just after half-time, and Roma got off the hook.

There was little consolation for Roma in the form of their European Cup opponents, Dynamo Berlin. With Tricloff, their international defender, at last back from injury (though the splendid striker, Riediger, may have played his last game), Dynamo ran out 3-1 winners of a difficult game against Hansa Rostock, who took the lead. Especially encouraging was the form of forward, Thom, aged 18.

Michel Hidalgo, the able manager of the French international team which plays England tomorrow in Paris, has made a fervent, humane plea for the release of Roger Rocher. The former president of Saint-Etienne is still held in Lyons on charges of serious financial irregularities, including the making of huge under-the-counter payments to players such as Platini, inspiration of Juventus and France.

West Germany, having introduced several new players and beaten Bulgaria 3-2 in Sofia, continue their preparations for the European Championship finals, in Brussels tomorrow against Belgium; who bring Renquin back to the defence.

Jupp Derwell, the West German manager, is trying a new *libero* in Herget, of Uerdingen, criticized after the Sofia game for playing in front of his fellow defenders, rather than beside them. Herget retorted that this was the way he always played for his club. Derwall backed him up, and he is expected to play in Brussels.

Two of the West German goals in Sofia were scored from midfield by their former *libero*, Stielike, who was mysteriously criticized by one reporter for being old-fashioned.

The Bundesliga is as close-run as ever, with Bayern, Stuttgart and Hamburg level at the top. Dieter Hoeness, brother of the Bayern general manager, Uli, returned suddenly to form last Saturday, scoring five of his team's six goals against Eintracht Brunswick. This may have been helped by the return, after long absence through a hernia operation, of the gifted Danish left-sided midfield player Lerby.

Results from foreign leagues

ARGENTINE: Ferrocarril Oeste (La Pampa) 0 Boca Juniors 0; Talleres Cordoba 4 Newell's Old Boys 1; Union del Chaco 1 San Lorenzo 2; Gimnasia Y Esgrima Mendoza 2 Temperley 2; Velez Sarsfield 3 Central Norte Salta 0; Rosario Central 1 Belgrano de Cordoba 0; River Plate 6 Uruguay de Santa Fe 0, Huracan 2 Estudiante Rio Cuarto 0; P-Lazense 2 Instituo de Cordoba 0; Ferrocarril Oeste 2 Altos Hornos Zapla Jujuyo 0; Independiente 3 Chacarita Juniors 0, Kimberley de Mar Del Plata 1 Atletico Tucaman 1, Racing de Corcoba 1 Union de Santa Fe 0, Atletico Ledesma de Jujuy 1 Argentinos Juniors 2; Atlanta 1 Estudiantes de La Plata 2, Union San Vicento de Cordoba 2 Olimpo de Bahia Blanca 3.

BRAZILIAN: Fluminese 0 Santos 1, Sao Paulo 3 Vasco Da Gama 2; Botafogo 0 Portuguesa 0, Flamengo 3 Brasilio 0; Tuna Luso 2 Fortalea 1, CRB 0 Treze 1, Bangu 2 Bahia 2; Confianca 0 Bahia 2; Confianca 0 ABC 1; Corinba 1 Santo Andre 2; Catuense 1 Gremio 2; Goas 0 Palmeiras 1; Cruzeiro 2 Atletico Paranaense 2; Brasil 1 America 1; Corinthians 0 Internacional 0; Operario Varzea Grande 2 Anapolina 0, Santa Cruz 3 Auto Esporte 1

BELGIAN: Cup quarter finals: S: Nicholas 1, Beveren 5; Lierse 2, Waregem 2; Standard Liege 2, Antwerp 1; Ghent 3, Lokeren 0.

CYPRIOT: Apoel 3, Apollon 0; Ethnikos 2, Omonia 5; Pezoporikos 1, Aradippou 1, Ael 2, Salamina 0; Paralimni 0, Alki 0; Enosis 0 Aris 0

DUTCH: Den Bosch 2, DS79 Utrecht 0; Utrecht 2, Sparta Rotterdam 2; Willem II Tilburg 0, Excelsior Rotterdam 2; Pec Zwolle 1, Roda JC Kerkrade 2; FC Volendam 0, PSV Eindhoven 1, Helmond Sport 5, AZ 67 Alkmarr 3; Fortuna Sittard 1, GA Eagles Deventer 2; Feyenoord Rotterdam 4, Ajax Amsterdam 1; Haarlem 2, Groningen 1.

EAST GERMAN: Rot-Weiss Erfurt 3, Magdeburg 1, Carl Zeiss Jena 4, Union Berlin 1; Karl Marx Stadt 1, Dynamo Dresden 1; Chemie Leipzig 2, HFC Chemie 0; Vorwaerts Frankfurt 3, Lokomotive Leipzig 2; Stahl Riesa 0, Wismut Aue 0; Dynamo Berlin 3, Hansa Rostock 1.

FRENCH: Nantes 0, Bordeaux 1; Monaco 1, Bastia 0; Paris Saint-Germain 1, Auxerre 2; Toulouse 1, Strasbourg 0; Laval 1, Nancy 1; Metz 1, Rouen 1; Lens 1, Sochaux 0; Toulon 0, Lille 3; Brest 2, Nimes 0; Saint-Etienne 1, Rennes 0.

GREEK: Panionios 0, Apollon Athens 1; Panathinaikos 5, Panserraikos 0; Iraklis 2, Larisa 0; Doxa 0, Yannina 0; AEK 2, Olympiakos 1; Apollon Kalamarias 0, Aris 0; Ethnikos 1, OFI 0; PAOK 0, Egaleo 0.

ITALIAN: Ascoli 2, Naples 2; Avellino 3, Genoa 1, Inter Milan 2, Udinese 0; Juventus 2, Torino 1, Pisa 1, Fiorentina 1; Roma 2, Lazio 2, Sampdoria 1, AC Milan 1, Verona 3, Catania 0.

PORTUGUESE: Agueda 1, Benfica 4, Porto 1, Braga 0; Sporting 2, Salgueiros 0; Guimaraes 1, Espinho 0, Rio Ave 1, Penafiel 3, Portimonense 1, Boavista 2; Setubal 1, Varzim 0, Estoril 0, Farense 0

SOVIET: Moscow Spartak 1 Ska Rostov 0; Fakel 1 Jalguiris Vilnius 0; Dynamo Tbilisi 0 Dynamo Minsk 1, Cska-Moscow 4 Dynamo Kiev 2 (sets); Dnepr 1 Moscow Dynamo 2; Chornomorets 1 Shakhter Donetz 0, Metallist Kharkov 1 Moscow Torpedo 2.

SPANISH: Espanol 2 Real Sociedad 2, Valencia 1 Cadiz 1; Malaga 0 Real Zaragoza 1; Real Betis 1 Salamanca 0; Real Madrid 2 Barcelona 1; Real Valladolid 1 Atletico Madrid 2; Sporting 1 Sevilla 0; Real Murcia 4 Osasuna 0; Athletic Bilbao 4 Real Mallorca 0.

SWISS: Sion 3 Servette 3; Vevey 2 St Gall 2; Grasshopper 4 Lausanne 1; Bale 0 La Chaux de Fonds 1; Bellinzone 1 Aarau 1; Lucerne 1 Zurich 0; Wettingen 4 Chiasso 1; Neuchatel Xamax 2 Young Boys 1.

TURKISH: Antalyaspor 0 Fenerbahce 0, Genclerbirligi 0 Boluspor 0; Bursaspor 1 Adanademirspor 0; Adanaspor 2 Besiktas 2; Sakaryaspor 1 Ankaragucu 0; Galatasaray 1 Zonguldakspor 0; Trabzonspor 1 Denizlispor 0; Orduspor 2 Karagumrukspor 1, Sariyerspor 2 Kocaelispor 1.

WEST GERMAN: Bayern Munich 6 Eintracht Brunswick 0; Eintracht Frankfurt Kickers Offenbach 0; Hamburg 5 Fortuna Düsseldorf 2; Kaiserlautern 6 Arminia Bielefeld 0; Borussia Dortmund 3 Bayer Leverkusen 0; Borussia Mönchengladbach 4 VfL Bochum 2; Cologne 2 Waldhof Mannheim 0; Nuremberg 2 Werder Bremen 0. Postponed: Stuttgart v Bayer.

YUGOSLAV: Radnicki Nis 1 Vojvodina Novi Sad 0; Red Star Belgrade 4 Celik Zenica 0; Hajduk Split 3 Olimpija Ljubljana 0; Velez Mostar 3 Sarajevo 0; Vardar Skopje 3 Osijek 1; Dinamo Vinkovci 2 Pristina 0; Buducnost Titograd 1 Partizan Belgrade 0; Zeljeznicar Sarajevo 2 Rijeka 1; Sloboda Tuzla 3 Dinamo Zagreb 2.

Robson echoes Robson

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The thoughts of the manager and the captain of England are as similar as their surnames. Bobby Robson's claim that the international against France tomorrow night should not represent the dawn of a new era was supported by Bryan Robson yesterday afternoon, before the squad flew to Paris.

This is not, he insisted, a new beginning, instead it represents an extension of perfomances in the European Championship. "Obviously it was a dispppointment not to qualify," he said, "and I hope Denmark win the tournament this summer just to prove that we were beaten by the best side in it.

"The manager has already made many changes and we've got a few more new faces. I've heard a lot about Steve Williams, but who is supposed to be left out? We cannot afford another failure and we should be aiming for a settled side. This game is a good one to judge our standards."

Robson accepted that his own form this season has fallen short of the standards he has set over recent years. Yet he remains one of the few individuals that Bobby Robson would not dare to omit. Even so, Bryan Robson admitted that his manager "might want to pick, say, Ray Wilkins and Williams to see how they combine together."

Robson has been linked in the past few days with Sampdoria, among a handful of rich Italian clubs. He himself wishes that the speculation would end. "If a club made any offer to United, then I would be prepared to talk to them, but it is out of my hands.

"I have talked to Ron Atkinson about the situation and I'm trying to keep it out of my mind.

Albion may be tangled up in Blues

It is not a good time for West Bromwich Albion to become entangled in a local derby with Birmingham City, at least not at St Andrew's (Clive White writes). Birmingham will be looking tonight to extend their unbeaten run to 11 games, their best sequence in Ron Saunders's two-year management.

No time is the right time for Albion and their new management team, headed by John Giles. Giles will keep the same side who forced a home draw with Coventry City largely because no one else is available. Regis, Owen, Robertson and Whitehead should be fit, though, for a desperate afternoon at Notts County on Saturday.

For Birmingham, Gayle returns from suspension and Broadhurst, who missed the match at Tottenham because of influenza, awaits a medical report.

West Ham United's intention of giving Brooking's injured hamstring another workout in the reserves has been thwarted because Norwich City, so rich in youth, strangely cannot field a team for the Football Combination match at Carrow Road tomorrow.

Telford's luck

Telford United, who beat three Football League sides in this season's FA Cup, have home advantage in the quarter-finals of their defence of the FA trophy, where they meet Marine on March 17.

FA TROPHY. Fourth round draw: Dulwich Hamlet or Northwich Victoria v Barnet; AP Leamington v Gateshead or Bangor City; Nuneaton Borough or Dagenham v Whitby; Telford v Marine (matches to be played March 17).

IN BRIEF

Fibak wants to get back into the Polish fold

Warsaw, (AP) – Wojciech Fibak, Poland's leading tennis player, has asked to rejoin the national team, the official Polish news agency reported yesterday, signalling an apparent truce between the expatriate star and the sports authorities. Fibak has not played on Poland's Davis Cup team since the December 1981 martial law decree, partly to protest against the crackdown and partly because cup competition interfered with other engagements. Fibak, ranked 29 in world standings, has been competing on the professional circuit, and is set to face John McEnroe this week in a Grand Prix event in Madrid.

● FOOTBALL: Sir Stanley Rous and Bobby Charlton are to be honoured by FIFA during its eightieth anniversary celebrations in Zurich in May. Sir Stanlay, former FIFA president and Football Association secretary will be the only administrator honoured.

REAL TENNIS: Peter Seabrook won the Seacourt Silver Raquet Open handicap competition, sponsored by George Wimpey, for the second time when he defeated Paul Tabley, of Australia, who was owing ½ 15, by 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 in Sunday night's final at Hayling Island. Seabrook, an experienced amateur, was outplayed in the first set by Tabley, but by parrying strong forcing shots and cutting the ball with severity on the floor, Seabrook had the resilience and killer instinct when it mattered.

QUARTER FINAL: P Dawes (Seacourt) bt M Goodging (Troon) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4, P Seabrook bt A Lovell 6-3, 6-4, P Tabley (unattached) bt C Lumley (Holyport) 3-6, 6-3, 6-1, L Deuchar (Hampton Court) bt K Sheldon (Leamington) 6-5, 1-6, 6-3. Semi-finals: Seabrook bt Dawes 1-6, 6-4, 6-1. Tabley bt Deuchar 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. Final: Seabrook bt Tabley 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

LACROSSE: Women's internationals start with the match between England and England Reserves on the floodlit artificial turf at Crystal Palace next Friday evening, March 2 (Peter Tarlow writes)

ENGLAND: J Gulbride (captain), E Bishop, J Emerson, B Dootson, J Liversedge, P Mitchell, C Richards, L Tobin, A McGinn, C Purkhardt, S Wilson, L Richardson.

ENGLAND RESERVES: K Pottinger (captain), E Quinton, K Stevens, A Taylor, S Cullen, L Hall, J Parker, J Cooke, F Moore, J Phelps, J Whyke, A Gallagher.

MOTOR RACING

New York event postponed

Paris (AP) – The first New York Grand Prix has been postponed until 1985, and will be replaced in this year's world championship calendar by a race on the new street circuit at Fuengirola in southern Spain, it was announced yesterday.

Jean-Marie Balestre, president of the international motor sport federation (FISA), said that there are still doubts over the South African Grand Prix, due to take place on April 7, because of uncertainty over the progress of modifications to the track.

The world championship status of the Monaco Grand Prix, scheduled for June 3, is also in doubt, as the result of a disagreement over televison rights.

Mr Balestre added that applications to hold world championship rounds have been received from an Arab nation, a US state capital and an unnamed British city, believed to be Birmingham.

ICE HOCKEY

A coach proves his worth

By Robert Pryce

Rod McNair, the Durham coach, believes he has been neglected and Tom Smith, the Durham Manager, feels his team are the victims of media bias. Durham are now second in the premier division, with just one defeat in their last 18 games, and McNair still has not won any of Heineken's coach of the month awards.

"He and Alex Dampier are the best coaches in the league," claims Mr Smith and McNair agrees. "I think I'm doing a damned good job," he says.

Sunday's game at Streatham between the top two English teams in the league provided a spectacular example of McNair's power of motivation for unconvinced representatives of the metropolitan media. After two periods, Streatham were leading 3-2 and had held Jamie Crapper scoreless. In the interval McNair told his leading scorer, in terms that are not repeatable here: "You're not doing your job." Crapper responded with three goals and two assists in the last period as Durham rallied to win 7-4.

Crapper was put clean away by his centre, Tilley, to score the first goal of the period while Durham were under strength

BRITISH LEAGUE: premier division: Cleveland 7, Murrayfield 7 (Sobkowich 3); Nottingham 2, Dundee 14 (Halpin 3, R Wood 3); Dundee 8, Fife 3, Murrayfield 2, Ayr 1, Streatham 4 (Stelan 3), Durham 7 (Crapper 3); Whitley Bay 9 (Kent 3), Cleveland 3

First division: Bournemouth 4, Crowtree 6; Grimsby 7, Deeside 2, Altrincham 16, Grimsby 4, Southampton 8, Crowtree 4.

TOUR MATCH: Durham 5 Don Mills Comets (Toronto) 12.

ROWING

Greatest gain by LMH

The finishing order for Oxford University Torpids, in which Oriel retained the headship in the men's event and Osler House finished top of the women's for the first time, shows Lady Margaret Hall first men's crew making the greatest gain and Keble III the greatest loss.

(Figures in brackets indicate positions gained or lost, or no change)

MEN

DIVISION I: Oriel (–), Christ Church (+3), Keble (–1), Exeter (–), Worcester (–2), Pembroke (+1), St Edmund Hall (+4), Oriel II (–), Brasenose (+5), Queen's (–), University (+1), Lincoln (–3).

DIVISION II: Jesus (+5), Wadham (+2), Balliol (–9), St Catherine's (+1), New College (–4), Magdalen (+2), Osler House (–), Hertford (–5), St John's (–), Corpus Christi (+3), St Peter's (+5), Keble II (–1).

DIVISION III: Trinity (–3), Wolfson (+3), Exeter II (+3), Christ Church II (+5), Mansfield (–2), Oriel III (+1), Lincoln II (+4), Pembroke II (–6), Worcester II (+1), Wadham II (+3), University II (–3), St Edmund Hall II (+5).

DIVISION IV: Merton (–11), Balliol II (–2), St Catherine's II (+4), Brasenose II (+4), St John's II (–2), New College II (+5), Queen's II (–5), Oriel IV (+4), Wolfson II (–), Lady Margaret Hall (+6), Exeter III (–1), Hertford II (+5).

DIVISION V: Regent's Park (–), Jesus II (–10), Worcester III (+4), St Anne's (+4), Queen's III (+2), St John's III (+4), Keble III (–13), Corpus Christi II (+4), Oriel V (–7), Jesus III (+4), Linacre (+2), St Peter's II (–6).

DIVISION VI: Lady Margaret Hall II (+4), Wadham III (–5), Keble IV (–4), Keble V (–1), St Benet's Hall (+1), Trinity II (+2), Brasenose III (–3), St Catherine's III (+1), Oriel VI (+4), St Catherine's IV (+1), St Anne's II (–4), Linacre II (+3).

DIVISION VII: Keble VI (–3), Mansfield II (+3), Christ Church III (–3), St Edmund Hall III (+3), Magdalen II (–1), Balliol III (–4), Trinity IV (+5), Trinity III (+1), Exeter IV (+4), Oriel VII (–2), Lincoln III (–), Merton II (–6), Lady Margaret Hall III (–3).

WOMEN

DIVISION I: Osler House (+2), St Catherine's (+2), Lady Margaret Hall (–2), St Hilda's (+1), St Hugh's (+4), Jesus (–5), Worcester (–1), Somerville (–2), Pembroke (+1), Brasenose (+1), University (+4), St Anne's (–4).

DIVISION II: Wadham (–1), Balliol (+4), Lincoln (+5), Exeter (–3), Trinity (+2), Wolfson (–4), St Hugh's II (+4), Keble (–4), St Hilda's II (+4), Corpus Christi (–1), New College (+3), Hertford (–7).

DIVISION III: Queen's (+2), Brasenose II (+3), Lady Margaret Hall II (–5), Christ Church (–), St Hugh's IV (+3), St Hugh's III (–), St Edmund Hall (–), Mansfield (+1), St Catherine's II (+2), Magdalen (–10), Somerville II (+1), St Hilda's III (–2), Merton (–).

MEN

DIVISION ONE: St Edmund Hall bpd Oriel II University bpd Lincoln.

DIVISION TWO: Wadham bpd Balliol; Jesus bpd Wadham; Magdalen bpd Hertford; Osler House bpd Hertford; Corpus Christi bpd Trinity; St Peter's bpd Trinity; Keble II bpd Trinity.

DIVISION THREE: Christ Church II, bpd Mansfield; Oriel III, bpd Pembroke II, Lincoln II, bpd Pembroke II; Wadham II, bpd Merton; University II, bpd Merton; St Edmund Hall II, bpd Merton.

DIVISION FOUR: St Catherine's II, bpd St John's II; Brasenose II, bpd St John's II; New College II, bpd Queens II; Oriel IV, bpd Wolfson II; Hertford II, bdp Regent's Park.

DIVISION FIVE: Hertford II, bpd Jesus II; Worcester III, bpd Queen's III; St Anne's bpd Queen's III; St John's III, bpd Oriel V; Keble III, bpd Oriel V; Corpus Christi II, bpd Oriel V; Jesus III, bpd St Peter's II; Linacre bpd St Peter's II.

DIVISION SIX: Lady Margaret Hall II, bpd Wadham III; Brasenose III, bpd St Catherine's III; Oriel VI, bpd St Catherine's IV.

DIVISION SEVEN: Mansfield II, bpd Christ Church III, St Edmund Hall III, bpd Balliol III; Magdalen II, bpd Balliol III; Trinity Hall IV, bpd Oriel VII, Trinity III, bpd Oriel VII; Exeter IV, bpd Oriel VII; Lincoln III, bpd Merton II.

WOMEN

DIVISION ONE: St Hugh's bpd Jesus; Worcester bpd Somerville; University bpd Wadham; St Anne's bpd Wadham.

DIVISION TWO: Balliol bpd Exeter; Lincoln bpd Exeter; Trinity bpd Wolfson; St Hilda's II, bpd Hertford; Corpus Christi bpd Hertford; New College bpd Hertford

DIVISION THREE: Brasenose II, bpd Lady Margaret Hall II, St Edmund Hall bpd Magdalen; Mansfield bpd Magdalen St Catherine's II bpd Magdalen.

CRICKET

Lawson soon removes opening pair

Georgetown (Reuter) – Guyana, set a target of 327 runs in 286 minutes by the Australians, were 24 for two in their second innings when rain stopped play seven minutes before lunch on the final day of their four-day match here yesterday.

AUSTRALIANS: First innings 467 for 6 dec (S B Smith 105, A R Border 113, G M Ritchie 64, D W Hookes 81, D M Jones 58)

Second Innings

S B Smith st Pydanna b Kallicharran	116
W B Phillips c Pydanna b Butts	62
G M Ritchie lbw b Butts	0
D M Jones b Joseph	60
G R J Matthews not out	12
T G Hogan lbw b Joseph	3
D W Hookes not out	3
Extras (b12m l-b2, w1, n-b5)	20
Total (5 wkts dec)	276

*A R Border, †R D Woolley, G F Lawson and R M Hogg did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS 1–141, 2–147, 3–242, 4–265, 5–273.

BOWLING. Joseph 14-4-47-2; Lyght 3-1-9-0; Butts 20-4-64-2; Harper 24-8-45-0; Kallicharran 27-3-95-1; Jackman 1-0-2-0.

GUYANA: First innings 417 for 8 dec (A F D Jackman 125, Timur Mohamed 68; R M Hogg 5 for 114)

Second Innings

A A Lyght b Lawson	0
C B Lambert c Smith b Lawson	4
A F D Jackman not out	14
*Timur Mohamed not out	5
Extras (n-b1)	1
Total (2 wkts)	24

R Seeram, D I Kallicharran, R A Harper, †M R Pydanna, C Butts, R F Joseph, G E Charles.

FALL OF WICKETS. 1–0, 2–9.

More cricket, page 28

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Los Angeles Lakers 101, Philadelphia 76ers 99; Boston Celtics 116, Phoenix Suns 109; San Diego Clippers 101, Seattle Supersonics 93; Indiana Pacers 102, Portland Trail Blazers 100; Detroit Pistons 121, Cleveland Cavaliers 109.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston Celtics	43	14	.754	–
Philadelphia 76ers	34	23	.596	9
New York Knicks	33	24	.579	10
New Jersey Nets	29	29	.500	14½
Washington Bullets	28	31	.456	17

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee Bucks	34	24	.586	–
Detroit Pistons	32	24	.571	1
Atlanta Hawks	31	27	.534	3
Chicago Bulls	22	33	.400	10½
Cleveland Cavaliers	22	34	.393	11
Indiana Pacers	18	39	.316	15½

Western Conference

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah Jazz	34	24	.586	
Dallas Mavericks	31	27	.534	3
Kansas City Kings	24	32	.429	9
Denver Nuggets	25	34	.424	9½
San Antonio Spurs	25	35	.417	10
Houston Rockets	22	35	.386	11½

Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles Lakers	37	19	.661	–
Portland Tri Blazers	35	24	.593	3½
Seattle Supersonics	30	26	.538	7
Phoenix Suns	26	31	.456	11½
Golden State Warrs	26	32	.448	12
San Diego Clippers	20	37	.351	17½

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford 58, Cambridge 25.

MOTOR RACING

MIAMI: Grand Prix Endurance Race (US unless stated): 1, D Bundy and B Redman (GB), Jaguar XJR-5, 118 laps; 2, R Tullius and P Bedard, Jaguar XJR-5, 118; 3, R Lobenberg and J Morton, Chevrolet Lola, 117; 4, A Foyt and R Wollek (Fr), Porsche Turbo, 115; 5, P Halsmer and B Heyje (Neth), Mazda Lola, 114; 6, J Busby and R Knoot, Mazda Lola, 114.

SWIMMING

BRISBANE: Australian national championships: Men's 100 metres: 1, M Stockwell, 50.55sec (Commonwealth record).

FOOTBALL

MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Peterborough 0, Portsmouth 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 4, Pittsburgh Penguins 3; Philadelphia Flyers 5, New York Islanders 3; Quebec Nordiques 5, St Louis Blues 0, Washington Capitals 4, Hartford Whalers 3, Detroit Red Wings 4, Chicago Black Hawks 2; Vancouver Canucks 4 Toronto Maple Leafs 4; Calgary Flames 5, Los Angeles Kings 2.

Wales Conference

Patrick Division	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
New York Island	39	23	2	279	222	80
New York Rangers	35	21	8	256	241	78
Washington Captls	35	24	4	242	194	76
Philadelphia Fly	33	20	10	275	231	76
Pittsburg Pengns	13	44	16	197	294	32
New Jersey Devils	13	43	5	181	273	31

Adams Division	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Buffalo Sabres	40	18	6	258	211	86
Boston Bruins	38	21	4	275	211	80
Quebec Nord	34	23	7	289	219	75
Montreal Candn	29	30	5	245	236	63
Hartford Whalers	22	33	8	235	282	52

Campbell Conference

Norris Division	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Minnesota N Stars	31	27	6	277	277	68
Detroit Red Wings	25	32	7	240	261	57
Chicago Blk Hawks	24	33	8	220	245	56
St Louis Blues	23	35	7	227	284	53
Toronto Maple Lf	21	35	8	237	309	50

Smythe Division	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Edmonton Oilers	46	14	5	367	265	97
Calgary Flames	27	23	13	243	251	67
Winnipeg Jets	24	27	10	289	288	58
Vanc Canucks	24	35	7	252	270	55
LA Kings	19	33	12	254	293	50

SKIING

COPPER MOUNTAIN, COLORADO: US giant slalom championship: 1, S Mahre; 2, J Buxman; 3, F McGrath.

SNOW REPORT

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Upper runs: complete, surface icy. Middle runs: complete, surface icy. Lower slopes: complete. Wet snow with icy patches. Vertical runs: complete. Wet snow with icy patches. Vertical runs: 1,800ft. Hill roads: clear. Main roads: clear. Snow level: 1,800 ft. Glenshee: Upper runs: complete. Hard-packed snow with icy patches. Lower slopes: ample nursery areas. Hard-packed snow with icy patches. Vertical runs: 1,000ft. Hill roads: clear. Main roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000ft. Lecht: Upper runs: complete. Wet snow on a firm base. Middle runs: complete. Wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: ample nursery areas. Wet snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 700ft. Hill roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000ft.

BOXING: MAN IN THE MIDDLE IS RICO HOYE

Promoters may have legal set-to before Christie bout

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Warren brings on his crowd-pullers, Roy Gumbs, Errol Christie and Noel Quarless, all against foreign "good class" opponents at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, London, on March 21. But before the show goes on there could be a right legal set-to over Christie's and Quarless's contests.

The man Christie is boxing, Rico Hoye, has been booked by Mike Barrett to meet Mark Kaylor at Wembley a week earlier. "I've got him signed up", Warren claimed, but from his Soho office, Barrett made the angry reply: "Contrary to any statement which may be put out by another promoter, I confirm that Mark Kaylor will box Rico Hoye, of Detroit, as announced, at Wembley on March 13. Any contact with Hoye's manager will confirm this."

The Kaylor-Christie rivalry will not end with who boxes Hoye. Kaylor may have to defend his British and Commonwealth titles against the exciting young Coventry middleweight. Warren has increased his offer to Kaylor from £20,000 to £30,000.

Barrett also stands in the way of Quarless getting into the ring. Nat Basso, Quarless's manager, has signed the heavyweight up to appear on a Barrett show. Quarless has no intention of boxing for Barrett and says he has sacked Basso. The British Boxing Board of Control meet on March 14 to decide whether Quarless's dismissal of his manager stands.

Colin Jones and his manager, Eddie Thomas, were rubbing their hands in anticipation as they left town yesterday for New York, where the world's No2 welterweight is to receive an award for his second title bout with Milton McCrory, voted the "Fight of the Year". The only other British boxer to receive a similar award was Ken Buchanan, of Scotland, who was also managed by Thomas.

While in New York Thomas hopes to sign up Jones to meet Suger Ray Leonard for a fee that could take the earnings of the former gravedigger from Gorseinon into over $2m (£1.36m). The last time Thomas had talks with Leonard's solicitor, Mike Trainer, the Welshman asked for $1m but the Americans made "a derisory offer". So Thomas picked up his papers put his pencil behind his ears and came back home to Merthyr Tydfil. This time Thomas says he is 85 per cent sure that Trainer will sign on the dotted line for a realistic sum. So much so that Thomas has lined up Cardiff Arms Park, just in case Leonard agrees to come to Wales.

Thomas will also ask the WBC to put Jones back to No1 position in the world ratings now that the top man, Nino La Rocca, has been beaten. Jones could then not only expect a third world title bout with McCrory but could also command a bigger fee for boxing Leonard. "It would be an honour to box Leonard" Jones said. "After all he is the people's champion". Thomas added.

Jones starts warming up as soon as he returns home with his first bout in Wales for two and a half years. He takes on a "good class" American at the Afan Lido, Aberavon, the hall in which he had his first professional bout.

TENNIS: BLEAK OUTLOOK FOR BRITAIN

Looking for a scapegoat in Dowdeswell

Many people will blame Britain's defeat, 3-2 by Italy in the Davis Cup, perhaps a little unfairly, on the form of Colin Dowdeswell (AFP reports). Although he was sucessful alongside John Lloyd in the doubles at Telford on Saturday, Dowdeswell lost both of his singles and although Lloyd won his opening singles on Friday, he too, was beaten on Sunday.

The British future looks increasingly bleak – especially since the Italian team of Gianni Occlepo and Corrado Barazzutti is a far cry from the days when the Italians were led by Adriano Panatta and company.

Italy and Paraguay move into the quarter-finals. Italy face Australia, the holders, who did'nt drop a set after the opening day of their tie against Yugoslavia in Perth which they won 5-0. Paraguay play Sweden, who quickly recovered after losing the opening singles against Ecuador in Norrkoeping. Argentina will play the United States, and France will play Czechoslovakia.

Argentina had a harder than expected match against West Germany in Stuttgart, with Guilermo Vilas and José Luis Clerc having to work hard for their 4–1 win.

In Bucharest, John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors overwhelmed Romania, led by Ilie Nastase, 5–0. The United States dropped only one set in the tie (surprisingly McEnroe lost the opening set of his final-day singles).

France beat India 4–1. India were unlucky losing Vijay Amritraj



Dowdeswell: disappointing

through injury before the tie began, and had to bring in Anand Amritraj, his older brother, who is not ranked in the world's top 700, to take his place. And Ramesh Krishnan, former world junior champion, came on court on Friday after spending three days in bed with influenza.

Czechoslovakia did not need Ivan Lendl, their No 1, to dispose of Denmark 5–0.

Bates put to an early test

By Lewine Mair

In the first round of the Masters, the final event of the Lawn Tennis Association's five-week satellite circuit, Jeremy Bates will play Brian Levine, the South African he had replaced as the tour's top seed.

When Levine came over at the end of January he was appalled to find that his world ranking of 222 was good enough to have him seeded first in each of the two opening events. He had never been the No 1 seed in anything before and he freely admits that the honour affected him adversely.

By last week, in the Coventry instalment of the satellite, Levine was beginning to play a more relaxed game. However, one doubts whether he is quite sharp enough to trouble Gates in their match at Bramhall tomorrow. Bates, of course, missed the Coventry event because of his Davis Cup commitment, but that short break from a circuit in which he has so far won two of the three events he has entered will probably have done him good rather than the reverse.

With Stuart Bale's opening game against Wayne Hamson of Australia also scheduled for tomorrow, the only match with British interest today is that between Richard Lewis, the runner-up at Coventry, and Ronnie Bathman, of Sweden.

MADRID: Men's singles, first round: V Van Patten (US) bt J Carlsson (Swe) 7-6, 6-1, 6-4.



VOLLEYBALL

Champions seeking sponsorship

By Paul Harrison

Capital City Spikers confirmed their new status at the leading team in England in their dress rehearsal on Sunday for the Mikasa Cup final, beating Speedwell Rucanor, from Bristol, 3-1. Not only have Spikers taken Speedwell's league title, they are now firm favourites to take the double tag from the west country side.

Spikers have lost only once this season in the league, while Speedwell have declined sadly to mid-table mediocrity. Sunday's match at Finsbury demonstrated the current gap between the two sides: Spikers won 15–5, 15–7, 7–15, 15–10.

Polonia have finished runners-up, and Spark, who have suffered from inconsistency this season, were third again. Spark had a particularly enjoyable weekend: they beat Speedwell 3–2, to become the only side to do the double over the Bristolians in recent seasons.

Champions they may be, but Spikers are still searching for sponsorship to enable them to enter European competition next season. They need about £3,000, and there is no sign of that coming along. Amateur sport is expensive: it cost the club £132 to hire the sports hall for their weekend matches. It was met by the players dipping into their own pockets, as usual. "It's all money, money," Mike Warwick, the Spikers secretary, says.

Spikers are planning to warm up for the cup final by playing the two leading Scottish sides, MIM and Volvo Trucks, in Scotland on the weekend of April 7-8. MIM, favourites to retain their league and cup titles, are going to Kuwait for a four-day playing visit from April 20.

Both MIM and Volvo had easy 3-0 victories in the Royal Bank league at the weekend, against Airdrie and Bellshill Cardinals respectively, and the league title should come down to their meeting on March 24, at Telford College, Edinburgh. They should meet in the cup final, too.

GYMNASTICS

Still appointed women's coach

By Peter Aykroyd

The British Amateur Gymnastics Association have appointed Colin Still the full-time national coach for women's gymnastics – it is three years since they have had a full-time coach.

Still, aged 30, will be based at Lilleshall national sports centre. His primary responsibility will be selecting and preparing all national squads. For the last six years, he has been a British team coach, and chief coach of Loughton Gymnastics

GOLF

Lack of women entrants is IBM's only problem

By Mitchell Platts

A surprising lack of recruitments to the Womens' Professional Golfers Association would appear to be the one obstacle for the organisation to overcome following the announcement in London yesterday of the inaugural Ladies' European Open, sponsored by IBM, to be played at the Belfry, Sutton Coalfield, on August 29 to September 1.

The European Open, with prize-money of £25,000, comes hard on the heels of the news that the Irish Open, sponsored by Smirnoff, is to carry a £100,000 prize fund and it takes the prize-money available to W.P.G.A. members in 1984 to a record of £478,500. The Irish Open, to be staged at Clandeboye, near Bangor, form October 10 to 13, will involve 45 leading players from the United States women's circuit and will follow immediately after the £140,000 Hitachi British Open at Woburn on October 3 to 6.

The European Open, which has a first prize of £5,000 is the hightest prize fund negotiated by the W.P.G.A. The British and Irish Opens are part of the U.S. L.P.G.A.'s World Tour which is worth more than $8m and takes in 39 tournaments.

Yet it is significant that Colin Snape, the executive director of the W.P.G.A. insists there is some anxiety regarding the number of British players prepared to switch from the amateur to the professional ranks in spite of the growth of the circuit.

"We now have 57 members, of which only 25 British or Irish, and of the 20 or so inquiries for membership this year ony three or four of them are home based," Snape said. "I would personally have hoped that, in spite of it being a Curtis Cup year, far more of our own girls would have been prepared to take the plunge especially as significant progress is being made as the IBM sponsorship underlines."

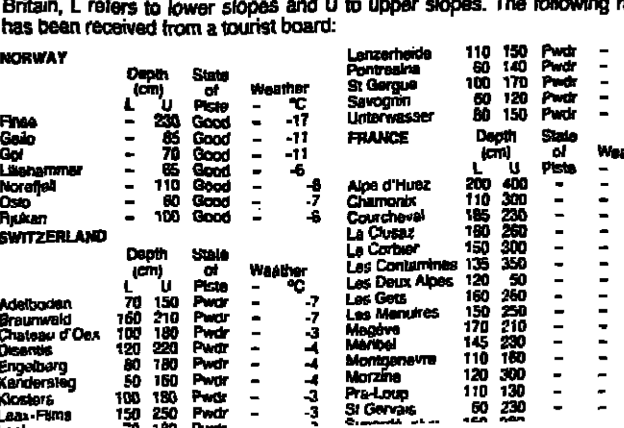
Livingston travels

Ricchard Livingston, of King's Norton, Birmingham, is the new professional at South Herts Golf Club, in succession to the late Dai Rees. A year ago Livingston was dismissed by King's Norton after refusing to accept a reduction in wages, but reinstated when the committee were forced to hold a members' ballot..

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) –	°C
Avoriaz	220	230	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	–2
New snow on good base							
Crans-Montana	180	250	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-5
New Snow on good base							
Davos	110	190	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	–3
Fresh snow everywhere							
Flaine	170	345	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-1
Excellent skiing conditions							
Gstaad	70	160	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	+2
Nery good skiing on and off-piste							
Kitzbühel	65	195	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	0
Lower slopes icy							
St Moritz	65	85	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-4
Recent light snowfall							
Seefeld	105	190	Icy	Varied	Good	Cloud	-2
Few worn patches							
Soldeu	40	120	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	-2
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Val d'Isère	130	250	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	–3
Excellent off-piste skiing							
Villars	115	215	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-2
Deep powder skiing on all slopes							
Wegen	35	145	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-2
Powder on hard base							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:



NORWAY

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Finse	–	230	Good	–	-17
Geilo	–	85	Good	–	-11
Gol	–	70	Good	–	-11
Lillehammer	–	65	Good	–	-6
Norefjell	–	110	Good	–	-8
Oslo	–	60	Good	–	-7
Rjukan	–	100	Good	–	-6

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Adelboden	70	150	Pwdr	–	-7
Braunwald	160	210	Pwdr	–	-7
Chateau d'Oex	100	180	Pwdr	–	-3
Disentis	120	220	Pwdr	–	-4
Engelberg	80	180	Pwdr	–	-4
Kandersteg	50	160	Pwdr	–	-4
Klosters	100	180	Pwdr	–	-3
Laax-Flims	150	250	Pwdr	–	-3
Lenzerheide	110	150	Pwdr	–	-9
Pontresina	60	140	Pwdr	–	-9
St Gergue	100	170	Pwdr	–	-4
Savognin	60	120	Pwdr	–	-5
Unterwasser	80	150	Pwdr	–	-4

FRANCE

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Alpe d'Huez	200	400	–	–	–
Chamonix	110	300	–	–	–
Courchevel	185	230	–	–	–
La Clusaz	180	260	–	–	–
Le Corbier	150	300	–	–	–
Les Contamines	135	350	–	–	–
Les Deux Alpes	120	50	–	–	–
Les Gets	160	260	–	–	–
Les Menuires	150	250	–	–	–
Megève	170	210	–	–	–
Méribel	145	230	–	–	–
Montgenevre	110	160	–	–	–
Morzine	120	300	–	–	–
Pra-Loup	110	130	–	–	–
St Gervais	60	230	–	–	–

RACING: DICKINSON OPTIMISTIC OVER GOLD CUP WINNER'S FUTURE

Henderson confirms See You Then as a Triumph runner

By Michael Seely

See You Then, the new favourtie for the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham, will arrive in England on Thursday and go straight to Lambourn where he will be trained for the four-year-old championship by Nicky Henderson. "The Stype Wood Stud, the new owners wanted to send him to Italy straight away, but he will run at Cheltneham first", Henderson said.

See You Then's easy defeat of Kalaminsky in the Jack, Peter, and John Doyle Hurdle at Punchstown on Saturday was by far the most impressive performance put up by a horse of his age group this season. Punters have been quick to realise the significance of this victory and 6-1 is the top price on offer after William Hill reported laying See You Then to lose £40,000 in their credit offices yesterday.

Henderson is now in the happy position of training both the first and second favourites for the Triumph. Childown, his other hope will be attempting to win his fourth race in succession in the Victor Ludorum Hurdle at Haydock on Saturday. This is the middle leg of the four-year-old's triple crown and Broad Beam and Clarin Bridge are also under orders for the Lancashire race.

The trainer continued, "My main worry now is jockeys as Hywel Davies has been grounded for three weeks. He will not be available for Cheltenham. John Francome will have the choice of mounts, so we will have to wait and see what happens on Saturday". Tommy Carmody rode See You Then to victory in Ireland last weekend when the horse was trained by Con Collins.

Davies, who nearly died in the ambulance after his fall from Solid Rock at Doncaster on Saturday, returned to the racecourse yesterday to be taken back to his home near Swindon by his wife, Rachael. "I have only been given a week's card", Davies insisted. "And I still hope to be fit to ride at Cheltenham". However, Dr Michael Allen, the Chief Medical Officer to the Jockey Club confirmed that Davies would not be allowed back in action for three weeks.

Other big race news came from Michael Dickinson and Jimmy Fitzgerald. The champion trainer was not at Doncaster to see Planetman earn himself a run in the Sun Alliance Chase with a hard



Henderson: jockey problem

fought victory in the Faversham Novices Chase, but said from his home at Harewood. "Pacifiste is still a probable for the Triumph, but goes first to Market Rasen on Saturday."

More importantly Dickinson had good news of Bregawn, whose refusal at Wincanton last Thursday still remains a mystery. "Bregawn worked really well this morning. And I think we'll win this particular battle. I certainly don't intend to try blinkers at this stage of the game". Last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner is on offer at 9-1.

Fitzgerald's winner at Doncaster was The Next Night, who became the fifth successful favourite of the afternoon in the second division of the Askern Main Novices Hurdle. "Ron O'Leary found him in Ireland and the horse is certainly entitled to have a crack at the Sun Alliance".

The trainer, is launching a powerful raid next Saturday. Forgive N'Forget is under orders for the Timeform Chase at Haydock, where Canny Danny has a good chance of giving the stable their first triumph in the always informative and competitive Greenall Whitley Chase.

Finally, despite a story in a Sunday newspaper that April 2 is the day that has been fixed for the hearing into the cases of Brian Taylor and Nigel Day, no date has yet been finalised. "I don't know where all this has come from", a Jockey Club spokesman said. "We still have to fix a date for the Taylor/Day cases and also for that of John Francome."

Barrier Reef to redeem himself

By Michael Seely

Barrier Reef is taken to prove himself a high-class young horse in the making by winning this afternoon's Hamilton Memorial Chase at Kelso. After watching the seven-year-old beat Kudos and Galway Blaze decisively at Wetherby in January, Thomas Tate, his trainer, said: "Barrier Reef has the potential to be in the same class as Silver Buck and Bregawn. And I should know as I won races on both of them." Robert Earnshaw rode Barrier Reef on that occasion but Tate will be back in the saddle today.

Since his Yorkshire victory Barrier Reef has finished unplaced behind Haybale at Huntingdon. However, his owner trainer is inclined to excuse that poor performance. "Barrier Reef had got very unfit because of the snow and ice," said Tate, who is managing director of Tate's Cars of Leeds. "He tired a mile from home and blew for an hour after the race."

Earl's Brig, Peaty Sandy and Sam Wrekin will all make formidable contenders for the £6,500 Scottish prize. Earl's Brig is cast in the same mould as Macmoffat, The Callant and Wyndburgh, other outstanding hunter chasers trained north of the border.

Earl's Brig finished second to Eliogarty in the Christies Foxhunters Challenge Chase at Cheltenham last year and after his fluent victory over Urser at Catterick earlier this month the nine-year-old has shown that he is ready not only to review his Cheltenham challenge but also to make a bold effort today.

Hill's Guard and Slave King are other likely winners at Kelso. Hill's Guard would have finished second to Ra Nova instead of third in the Schweppes Gold Trophy but for hanging badly to the right on the run-in.

At Plumpton all eyes will be on John Francome as he attempts to ride the 1,000th winner of his outstanding career on Dancing Sovereign in the E. Coomes Handicap Hurdle. Dancing Sovereign defied top weight in a similar race in fine style at Lingfield Park and was certainly not disgraced when finishing fifth to Mayote in the Fernbank Hurdle at Ascot. Dancing Sovereign may have most to fear from Canio and Navajo Brave.

Good start to term for Housemistress

Point-to-point, by Ian Reid

Housemistress made a welcome return last Saturday at the North Herefordshire where, despite a mistake three out, she and Rosemary Harper smoothly regained the lead from Master Straight and Rosemary Vickery to take the Ladies' Open, a qualifier for the RMC Group Championship at Chepstow, which Miss Harper won last year on Baulking Byway.

I understand, however, that Housemistress may be aimed at the Audi Grand Prix de Chasse at Sandown if she can qualify in an Audi adjacent Hunts race, perhaps at the Beaufort on Saturday.

Although not jumping too fluenty, Crumpet Catcher, with Mark Richards in the saddle, led soon after halfway in the hotly-contested first division of the men's open and withstood the challenge of Willie Bryan on Sparkford to win by half a length. Lay-the-Trump, 7-4 on for the second division was caught and beaten a head by Cabar Feidh, ridden by John Deutsch.

At the Army meeting at Tweseldown, Pay Related, Lochage and Britway won the three men's open qualifiers for the Diners' Club final at Chepstow on May 28. Luigi Carenza was kicked in the head when a broken leather caused him to fall only a few yards from the post on Solidity, who would have finished second to Lochage. Carenza was taken to hospital, but was later allowed to return home.

In the third division Britway seemed to have it all to do when he emerged from the cutting about 10 lengths behind Forbidden Fruit. But Paul Webber had timed his efforts to perfection and had one and a half lengths to spae at the finish. Forbidden Fruit was beaten half a length for second place by thre grey former chaser, Silent Burn.

Sir Bryn, returning after a long lay-off, started at odds-on for the Farmers' race. He jumped brilliantly, but was run out of it by the far fitter French Peacock, who gave Jenny Pidgeon her second double after Random Leg had duly collected the Ladies' Open.

The Cambridge University meeting at Cottenham, again on perfect going, produced big fields, close finishes and fast times. There were doubles for Lucy Gibbon and Peter Greenall, who also had two good seconds and a third. Greenall's winners were Cheekio Ora, who beat Jack of All Trades and the treble-seeking Glengiven in the third men's open, and Brown Loaf in the Past and Present race. His Irish import, Robson, second to Clinch It in the Members', and Spartan Missile's half brother, Royal Missile, who bustled up Drakes Pinnacle in the first open, should be winning for him soon.

Some spectators thought Reliable Robert had beaten Aingers Green in the Ladies', but Lucy Gibbon's mount got the verdict by half a length, with Clare Mair on Clounamon only a neck away third and Highgate Lady fourth.

Fordington Valley lost 15 lengths when carried wide a mile out in the second open, but fought back bravely to beat Master Croft by half a length with Silver Crocus (Peter Greenall) third. Lucy Gibbon's second winner, King's Wager, in the Adjacent, was again impressive, and Libby Lees may have another Laking in her stable in the five-year-old Corked, who beat Cool Secret in a fast time in the Restricted Riders Farmer's Race.

Prayukta throws it away

Fred Winter's former chaser, Prayukta, starting at 9-4 on, was clear when he fell three out in the two-mile Thrusters Hunters' Chase at Leicester yesterday (Ian Reid writes). This left Siobhan's Joy in a lead which he maintained to the finish, holding off the fast finishing Counterlone and Saldatore.

Elmboy, taken the shortest way round by Alan Hill in the first division of the Garthorpe Maiden Hunters' Chase, won easily by 20 lengths after Three Chances, ridden by Joy Carrier, had fallen on the first circuit. Dicky Blob, ridden by Steve Long, galloped on strongly to win the second division of the maiden.

Simon Sherwood was content to let Lakin lope around at the rear of the field for much of the way in the Land Rover Hunters' Chase, while Ballet Master and Youghal cut out the pace. Making up the ground smoothly, Lakin went into the lead between the last two and comfortably held off Youghal and Asuro.

In the Amateur Riders' Handicap Chase the fast-finishing Pay Freeze failed by a head to catch Nickle Moppett.

Robin Weavings's course winner, Rugy, ridden by Caroline Saunders outstayed the opposition in the two and a half mile Melton Hunt Club Chase. Mr Mole ran on into second place.

Plumpton

GOING: soft.

2.0 WALLANDS NOVICES' HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o: £548: 2m) (13 runners)

1 1210 RECORD DANCER (CD) (Miss H Gevers) G Pritchard-Gordon 11-6 ... Mr S Sherwood
2 0PP0 BILL SPEAKER (C Harvey) J Long 10-10 ... C Gray 4
3 0U0 COOMBE SPIRIT (R Elsey) J H Baker 10-10 ... M O'Halloran
4 0P00 FESTIVE ROAD (B Wise) B Wise 10-10 ... R Rowell
5 GENERAL CONCORDE (T Ramsden) D Dale 10-10 ... S Smith Eccles
6 3230 GREAT PRETENDER (G Morris) T Hallett 10-10 ... B Wright
7 00 [illegible] ... G Moore
8 [illegible] LIGHT TRAVELLER [illegible] 10-10 ... R Goldstein
10 [illegible] WHEREVER [illegible] D Barons 10-10 ... J Frost
11 F004 ACADIE [illegible] 10-5 ... J McLaughlin 4
12 FP CHANTEZ-LES BAS [illegible] M Madgwick 10-5 ... A Madgwick 4
13 [illegible] SHIRLSTAR MISS [illegible] 10-5 ... M Hoad 7
14 0F VELINDRE [illegible] 10-5 ... M Perrett
1983: Friday Street 10-6 [illegible] 15 ran.

10-11 Record Dancer, 7-2 General Concorde, 5 Great Pretender, 8 Wherever, 10 Acadie, 14 others.

2.30 WALLY COOMES HANDICAP CHASE (£1,604: 3m 1f) (7)

1 2123-FP FLAGSTAFF (D) [illegible] T Forster 12-11-13 ... A Webber
2 [illegible] ... C Brown
4 01102-0 DE PLUVINEL [illegible] K Bailey 11-11-7 ... Capt G Prest
6 [illegible] ROUND THE TWIST [illegible] ... R Rowe
7 P-2P12 SAUNDERS (CD) [illegible] ... G Moore
9 [illegible] ... J Akehurst 4
10 PP0P0F PLAYFIELDS [illegible] ... S Jobar
1983: [illegible] 13 ran.

13-8 Saunders, 5-2 Round The Twist, [illegible] De Pluvinel, 9 Flagstaff, 12 others.

3.0 E. COOMES HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,233: 2m 4f) (16)

3 313000 ROAD TO MANDALAY (CD) [illegible] D Barons 7-11-7 ... P Scudamore
4 [illegible] DANCING SOVEREIGN (D) [illegible] ... J Francome
5 [illegible] GLITTER STAR [illegible] ... P Croucher 7
7 [illegible] CANIO (D) [illegible] ... Peter Hobbs 4
8 [illegible] ... M Kinane
9 [illegible] MISTER LORD [illegible] ... M Perrett
10 [illegible] NAVAJO BRAVE [illegible] ... M Hoad 7
11 [illegible] ... M Hammond
12 [illegible] ... G Moore
13 [illegible] VODKATINI [illegible] ... J Lovejoy
14 [illegible] ... A Wright 7
15 [illegible] ... R Dunwoody 7
16 [illegible] ... Muggeridge 7
17 [illegible] ... S Shilston
21 [illegible] ... R Pusey 7
23 [illegible] ... C Gray 4
1983: Road To Mandalay [illegible] D Barons [illegible] ran.

9-4 Dancing Sovereign, 11-4 Mister Lord, 4 Canio, 6 Navajo Brave, 8 Glitter Star, 12 Vodkatini, 16 others.

3.30 MOUNT HARRY SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (£769: 2m 3f 90yd) (14)

[illegible] ... S Earl 7
[illegible] ... A Webber
[illegible] ... G Moore
[illegible] ... C Mann 4
[illegible] ... Madgwick 4
[illegible] ... M Hammond
[illegible] ... Powell 7
[illegible] ... R Rowell
[illegible] ... M Kinane
[illegible] ... R Goldstein
[illegible] ... J Akehurst 4
[illegible] ... G Newman

[illegible] 12 others.

4.0 E. COOMES SENIOR CITIZENS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,646: 2m 3f 90yd) (11)

[illegible] ... R Goldstein
[illegible] ... P Scudamore
[illegible] ... P Barton
[illegible] RUNWICK PROSPECT [illegible] ... R Dunwoody 7
[illegible] ... A Webber
[illegible] ... M Bastard
[illegible] ... L Bloomfield 4
[illegible] ... K Mooney
[illegible] ... H Davies 4
[illegible] ... G Newman
[illegible] ... George Knight

2 Pompous Prince, 3 Netherbridge, [illegible] 12 Kashill, 14 others.

4.30 WALLANDS NOVICES' HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o: £548: 2m) (13)

1 [illegible] HOME COMMAND [illegible] ... M O'Halloran
2 [illegible] LUCKY KNIGHT [illegible]
3 034 COLONEL GODFREY (Mrs S Archibald) J Old 10-10 ... S Morshead
4 00 DAVID HENRYS (D Currie) M D Usher 10-10 ... M Bastard
5 DRUM MAKER (S Cooper) G Kindersley 10-10 ... A Webber
6 000000 MULTI GURANTEE (B) (P Gray) P Gray 10-10 ... A Carroll
7 00 NORTH STOKE BOY (Danebury Racing) K Cunningham-Brown 10-10 ... G Newman
9 000 MAJUBA ROAD (D Wright) D Barons 10-5 ... J Frost
10 000 SOLAR TEMPTRESS (D Baxter) J D Davies 10-5 ... L Mancini 7
1983: Tugboat 10-10 R Hughes (33-1) P Mitchell 12 ran.

5-2 Lucky Knight, 7-2 Home Command, 4 Multi Guarantee, 11-2 Colonel Godfrey, 13-2 Drum Maker, 9 Majuba Road, 12 others.

Plumpton selections

By Michael Seely

2.0 Record Dancer. 2.30 Saunders. 3.0 Dancing Sovereign. 3.30 Runwick Prospect. 4.0 Grey Mate. 4.30 Colonel Godfrey.

Doncaster results

Going: Good

2.0 ARNDALE SELLING HANDICAP CHASE)£1,203. 2m 4f)
GOLDLINER ABBEY br g. by Abwah – Bright And Early (T Edmonds) 6-10 ... S Johnson (12-1) 1
Oliver Hardy ... J Williams (33-1) 2
Wilton Beacon ... J A Harris (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £17.00. Places: £2.60, £13 30, £17.40. DF: £442.80. CSF: £328.79. TRICAST: £10,749.20. J Hardy at Stanton. 4l, sh, hd. Cold View (12-1) 4th. Grandogen (11-4 fav) 19 ran. No bid.

2.30 BALMORAL HURDLE (£1,601: 2m 4f)
PARMABOS b g. by Dubassoff – Blue Ann (M Walker) 5-11-8 ... A Brown (1-3 fav) 1
Peter the Butcher ... M Pepper (9-1) 2
Gainsay ... P Scudamore (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.30. Places: £1.00, £2.40. DF: £3.50. CSF: £3.94. K Stone at Malton. 12l, 2l. Sound of Laughter (20-1) 4th. 5 ran.

3.0 HIGH MELTON HANDICAP CHASE (£2,337: 3m 2f)
RUPERTINO ch g by Saucy Kit – Miss Kilmansegg (Ld Kenyon) 9-11-5 ... R Stronge (4-1 fav) 1
Auckland Jack ... A Webber (6-1) 2
Salkeld ... C Hawkins (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.80. Places: £1.40, £1.60, £3.70. DF £7.60. CSF: £24.29. TRICAST: £353.42. E Owen at Denbigh. 4l, 3 Artimarval (10-1) 4th. 11 ran. NR: Barrysvill.

3.30 PRINCESS ROYAL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,603: 2m 150yd)
CRACKHILL b g by Legal Eagle – Mexiacan Music (A Suddes) 5-9-9 ... S Youlden (9-1) 1
Westway Lad ... M Richards (13-8 fav) 2
Selborne Record ... P Dever (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £16.20. Places: £5.30, £1.50. DF: £14.70. CSF: £23.09. Miss S Hall at Leyburn ½l, 1½l. Rushmoor (5-1) 4th. 7 ran.

4.00 FEVERSHAM NOVICES' CHASE (£1,635: 3m 122yd
PLANTEMAN b g by Menelek – Legal Fortune (Mrs J Lane) 7-11-5 ... R Earnshaw (11-10 fav) 1
Succeeded ... Mrs P J Dun (20-1) 2
Emmeson ... S Morshead (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2 50. Places: £1.60, £3.20, £3.50. DF: £27.10. CSF: £25.62. M W Dickinson at Harewood. ¾l, 15l. Sir Gordon (9-2) 4th. 18 ran. NR: Hopeful Saint.

4.30 ASKERN MAIN NOVICES' HURDLE (Div I. £813: 2m 4f)
FEALTY br g by Blakeney – Noble Duty (P Brookshaw) 4-10-12 ... S J O'Neill (10-11 fav) 1
Wojo ... J McLaughlin (14-1) 2
Tic-On-Rose ... J Williams (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win. £1.90. Places: £1.30, £2.40, £1.40. DF: £10.10. CSF: £15.49. P Brookshaw at Melton Mowbray. 1l, 12l. Pride of Tallow (25-1) 4th. 14 ran.

5.00 ASKERN MAIN NOVICES' HURDLE (Div II: £830: 2m 4f)
THE NEXT NIGHT ch g by Carnival Night – Must Rain (A F Budge Ltd) 6-11-4 ... R O'Leary (6-4 fav) 1
Steel Yeoman ... R Rowe (2-1) 2
Sam da Vinci ... D Dutton (9-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2 60. Places: £1.60, £1.70 £2.40. DF: £2.10. CSF: £5.31. J FitzGerald at Malton. 3l, 5l. Harvest Fortune (33-1) 4th. 21 ran NR: Tullmax. TOTE DOUBLE: £6.70. TREBLE £20.30. PLACEPOT: £81.30.

Paquet shows improvement

Hongkong (AFP) – The condition of Philippe Paquet, the French jockey, who has been in a coma since a fall on February 13, is improving, a spokeswoman for the Paquet family said here yesterday.

The blood clot on Paquet's brain disappeared several days ago, but doctors expect him to remain in a coma for another seven weeks, she said.

Paquet, aged 31, who fell during a training gallop, was examined by a top Australian neuro-surgeon flown in as a consultant. The French rider, married to the daughter of George Moore, a leading local trainer, has been riding in Hongkong since 1973.

Leicester results

Going: good to soft

1.45 GARTHORPE MAIDEN HUNTERS' CHASE (Div I: amateurs: £475: 3m)
ELMBOY b g by Sunnyboy – Kimplyn (W Mawle) 8-12 ... A Hill (7-4 fav) 1
Deep Tarton ... C Clarke (16-1) 2
Lucky Vintage ... J Pritchard (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.10. Places: £3.10, £6.40, £1.80. DF: £28.00. CSF: £31.28. W Mawle at Banbury 25l, 3l. Four of A Kind (14-1) 4th 15 ran.

2.15 THRUSTERS HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £725: 2m
SIOBHAN'S JOY ch g by Laurence O – Even More (Mrs C Janaway) 9-11-12 ... G Maundrell (15-2) 1
Counterlone ... J Sharpe (50-1) 2
Saldatore ... D Turner (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £8.90 Places: £1.80, £6.30, £4.40. DF: £2.00. (1st or 2nd with any other). CSF: £308.26. Mrs C Janaway at Malmesbury. 8l, 7l. Loanan (8-1) 4th. Prayukta (4-9 fav) 18

2.45 STURGESS LAND ROVER HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £1,727: 3m)
LAKIN br g by Lauso – Miss Wrekin (Mrs A Villar) 7-12-0 ... S Sherwood (4-11 fav) 1
Youghal ... J Greenall (16-1) 2
Asuro ... R J Beggan (7-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.60. Places: £1.30, £3.70, £1.20. DF: £11.70. CSF: £8.23. Mrs A Villar at Bury St Edmunds. 2½l, 10l, Rushbury (66-1) 4th, 10 ran.

3.15 LEICESTERSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE YEOMANRY HANDICAP CHASE (amateurs: £1,322: 2m 4f)
NICKLE MOPPETT br g by Carlsburg – Nicholas Mop (P Drecher) 7-10-7 ... G Mernagh (8-1) 1
Pay Freeze ... G Watson (20-1) 2
Goldenogen ... M Armytage (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £8.10. Places: £1.70, £1.80, £3.70. DF: £35.70. CSF: £116.37. J Webber at Banbury. Hd, 5l. Master Melody (33-1) 4th. Poyntz Pass (11-10 fav). 8 ran.

3.45 MELTON HUNT HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £960: 2m 4f)
RUGY b g by Rugandino – Penandlou (R Weaving) 8-11-3 ... M Wilkinson (11-2) 1

TOTE: Win: £8.60 Places £1.90, £1 80, £3.40. DF: £9.50. CSF: £36 27. R Weaving at Newport Pagnell. 6l, 1l. Game Trust –10-11 (fav) 4th. 13 ran.

4.15 GARTHORPE MAIDEN HUNTERS' CHASE (Div II: amateurs: £550: 3m)
DICKY BLOB br g by Baltus – Southra (J Nicholls) 9-12-0 ... S Long (33-1) 1
Ramalex ... Miss A Dare (33-1) 2
Angerman ... S Brookshaw (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £8.30. Places: £1.40, £3.80, £4.70. DF: £57.60. CSF: £113.89. J Nicholls at Yelverton. 15l, 5l. Double Earning (20-1) 4th. 23 ran.

4.45 GARTHORPE MAIDEN HUNTERS' CHASE (Div I: part two: amateurs: £471: 3m)
BORDER BURG b g by Perhapsburg – Border Knife (J Delahook) 7-12-7 ... P Greenall (1-2 fav) 1
Glen-Lock ... G Edwards (5-1) 2
The Whipstick ... Miss A Dare (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.80. Places: £1.40, £1.70, £1.60. DF: £3.80. CSF: £3.98. J Delahook at Buckingham. 15l, 2l. Bank Law (50-1) 4th. PLACEPOT: £582.85 (to a 50p stake)

Kelso

GOING: good to soft.

1.45 CRAILING NOVICES' HURDLE (4-y-o: £635: 2m) (15 runners)

3 0401 HOLLY BUOY (D) (R Wood) M Avison 11-0 ... M Dwyer
4 0401 SHAW BROW (D) (D Smith) Denys Smith 11-0 ... C Grant
7 4200 CARNIVAL PRIZE (N Heslop) R Gray 10-7 ... S Charlton
9 0PP CONWAY GROVE (N Chamberlain) N Chamberlain 10-7 ... A Stringer
10 0 DENVER (K McDonald) I Vickers 10-7 ... R Lamb
11 00 FOOTWORK (J Andrews) J Andres 10-7 ... Mrs S Bradburne
12 00 FRIENDLY BOBBY (T Hammond) T Fairhurst 10-7 ... C Fairhurst
13 000P0 HARBOUR MUSIC (B) (G Dand) T Craig 10-7 ... D Nolan
14 4330 McCREEVYISM (McCreevyism) R Fisher 10-7 ... Mr M Meagher 7
16 030 SHUMARD (J Beech) R Fisher 10-7 ... J Duggan 7
17 300 SOFT CENTRE (Mrs M McIntosh) J Haldane 10-7 ... –
19 022000 WALDRON HILL (G Thompson) R Allan 10-7 ... N Doughty
20 0 WHITE NILE (A Lyons) C Booth 10-7 ... P A Charlton
23 00 LINANHOT (A Jarvis) J Parkes 10-2 ... R Balfour 7
24 03033 MOONLIGHTING (Mrs P Boswell) P Calver 10-2 ... C Pimlott
1983: (All Aged) Turdeton 6-11-0 O K Jones (7-1) R McDonald. 22 ran.

5-2 Shumard, 3 Shaw Brow, 5 Moonlighting, McCreevyism, 6 Holly Buoy, 10 Friendly Bobby, 12 Carnival Prize, 16 others.

2.15 MOREBATTLE HURDLE (£2,054: 2m) (10)

1 00 ALWAYS HOPEFUL (Pacejewel Ltd) C H Bell 6-11-5 ... M Dwyer
2 4-122F3 HILL'S GUARD (CD) (G Shiel) A Scott 5-11-5 ... A Stringer
4 000001 MR MARSHALL (J Brock) Miss Z Green 6-11-5 ... J L Goulding
5 23113-0 PENNY'S DREAM (D) (Mrs V Thompson) V Thompson 5-11-5 ... Mr M Thompson 7
6 002 RESPIGHI (R A E Goodfellow) T Craig 5-11-5 ... –
7 /1-0F10 SWORD GAME (CD) (K McDonald) G Richards 8-11-5 ... N Doughty
8 13-1100 THE DIVIDER (CD) (J Aitken) Mrs T Calder 6-11-5 ... R Lamb
9 122120 THORBELL ARCH (D) (R Gray) R Gray 5-11-5 ... S Charlton
10 04-0000 FERNEZ (H McConnell) H McConnell 9-11-0 ... Mrs A Robertson
12 000111 L O BROADWAY (D) (Lt-Col D Pain) R Fisher 6-11-0 ... K Teelan 4
1983: No Race.

6-4 Hill's Guard, 11-4 L O Broadway, 7 Sword Game, 8 The Divider, 10 Thorbell Arch, 12 Mr Marshall, 16 Penny's Dream, 20 others.

2.45 McDONALD CONSTRUCTION NOVICES' CHASE (£2,116: 2m 196yd) (16)

2 12F013 STAND BACK (W Crawford) W A Stephenson 7-11-12 ... R Lamb
3 113233 VEILED CITY (C) (F Storey) F Storey 8-11-12 ... B Storey 4
7 0480 BINGE (J Aynsley) J Aynsley 8-11-5 ... Mr J Walton
8 010000 CLICKHAM LAD (M Morley) N Chamberlain 6-11-5 ... A Stringer
9 /00P-PP ERSKINE LAD (W Wilson) W A Stephenson 8-11-5 ... K Jones
10 43P3PU GOLD CAMP (Lady Kilmany) Lord Kilmany 8-11-5 ... C Pimlott
11 0-000 INDIAN MAIZE (Lady Carolina Renwick) Lady C Renwick 11-11-5 ... –
12 023 JOCKAMBEL (D Thomson) D M Thomson 8-11-5 ... T G Dun
13 4P0-000 MARATHON MAN (Duchess of Abercorn) K Oliver 6-11-5 ... D Dutton
14 0-1014F STRAIGHT DOWN (S Green) N Crump 7-11-5 ... C Hawkins
15 F40FP ANN'S HIGHLIGHT (B) (Lady Arbuthnot) Lady Arbuthnot 7-11-0 ... D McCaskoll
16 U0-FP20 JOYFUL STAR (Exors of the late J Dixon) J E Dixon 7-11-0 ... –
17 '042320 THELMAS SECRET (BF) (S Brown) T A Barnes 7-11-0 ... M Barnes
18 0P0-00 WESTWOOD BLAZE (H Taylor) W Storey 6-11-0 ... –
21 0-000 MO'S GEORGE (Ewart Engineering) G Richards 5-10-10 ... J Craine
22 0-0F2F3 PACIFIC SPENDOUR (R Jeffreys) C H Bell 5-10-10 ... M Dwyer
1983: Nodana 7-10-10 M Ennis (100-30) T Craig. 15 ran.

9-4 Veiled City, 3 Thelmas Secret, 7-2 Stand Back, 5 Straight Down, 7 Jockambel, 10 Pacific Spendour, 16 others.

3.15 HAMILTON LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (amateurs: £5,015: 3m 4f) (9)

3 10-0300 PEATY SANDY (C) (Miss H Hamilton) Miss H Hamilton 10-11-7 ... T Easterby
5 /12F4-1 EARLS BRIG (W Hamilton) W Hamilton 9-11-1 ... P Craggs
6 1F-0U10 BARRIER REEF (BF) (Mrs T Tate) T Tate 7-10-12 ... T Tate
8 22PPP0 LASOBANY (J Cowan) C H Bell 11-10-7 ... –
9 2-32224 WHY FORGET (Robert S Bell) W A Stephenson 8-10-7 ... P J Dun 7
10 2-1121P MR SNUGFIT (BF) (A Greenwood) M W Easterby 7-10-7 ... –
12 F23120 SAM WREKIN (C) (R Thomson) C H Bell 6-10-7 ... R J Beggan 4
13 201230 SIR MARCUS (Mrs G Reed) W Reed 8-10-7 ... T Reed 7
14 00-0FF0 ANOTHER SQUIRE (J Bertram) A Scott 9-10-7 ... –
1983: Captain John 9-11-8 D Browne (4-6 fav) M Dickinson. 10 ran.

2 Earls Brig, 100-30 Sam Wrekin, 9-2 Peaty Sandy, 5 Mr Snugfit, Barrier Reef, 10 Why Forget, 16 others.

3.45 SMAILHOLM NOVICES' HURDLE £838: 2m 4f) (20)

1 024321 MR DENETOP (CD) (F Musgrave) F Musgrave 6-12-0 ... Mr P J Dun 7
2 00-1F21 TEPYLON (G Hoolagan) M Lambert 5-11-12 ... P A Charlton
5 03231 RUN LEAH RUN (C Alexander) R Fisher 5-11-5 ... Mr M Meagher 7
6 41030 SLAVE KING (D) (A Wylie) C H Bell 5-11-5 ... P Dever 4
7 0 ANCHOR MAN (W Walton) Mrs A Hamilton 9-11-0 ... B Storey 4
8 0/00 ANVIL INN (P Monteith) P Monteith 6-11-0 ... D Nolan
14 00 HOXA (Miss H Hamilton) Miss H Hamilton 6-11-0 ... T G Dun
16 /334P-3 LITTLE HARRY (R Angus) P Calver 7-11-0 ... S McNeill
19 00 MUCKLERIDGE (R Nixon) R Nixon 6-11-0 ... –
22 SHOOTING MATCH (J Hurst) J Hurst 6-11-0 ... Mr W Hurst 7
23 00022/0 SWAFFHAM (S Leadbetter) S Leadbetter 6-11-0 ... –
25 0043 TAPPERS KNAPP (Mrs D Gadd) Denys Smith 7-11-0 ... C Grant
33 00 PETE AND DUD (V Thompson) V Thompson 5-10-12 ... Mr M Thompson 7
34 0P0 ROCKCLIFFE (M Dale) M Avison 5-10-12 ... P A Farrell 7
37 0 SOMERLED (R McDonald) R McDonald 5-10-12 ... K Jones
39 0 CATSPAW (Dr C Lowry) C Lowry 7-10-9 ... –
40 000 CHARONS DAUGHTER (J Hope) J Charlton 6-10-9 ... –
44 KATIE MAC (W Los) G Richards 6-10-9 ... N Doughty
45 NEW SWING (Mrs R Jackson) F Watson 7-10-9 ... –
49 000 FASKIN (H McConnell) H McConnell 5-10-7 ... Mrs A Robertson
1983: No Race.

15-8 Tepylon, 7-2 Run Leah Run, Mr Denetop, 4 Tappers. Knapp, 10 Slave King, Little Harry, 16 Katie Mac, 20 others.

4.15 CESSFORD HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £489: 3m) (8)

3 F02120- GAYLE WARNING (CD) (J Dudgeon) J Dudgeon 10-12-7 ... A Dudgeon 7
5 1023-02 WHAT A COUP (D) (T Dalgetty) T Dalgetty 9-12-2 ... Mrs G Minto 7
6 13P/042 COLONEL HENRY (CD) (Mrs C Braithwaite) Mrs C Braithwaite 8-12-0 ... G MacMillan
7 4F4F43- KNOCKEEN LAD (E Fenwick) J Haldane 9-12-0 ... L Hudson 7
12 20/030- VULGAN'S STRIKE (J Gilmour) J Gilmour 11-12-0 ... J Gilmour 7
13 UP04P-0 WELLHILL (W Forster) W Forster 9-12-0 ... N Jones 7
14 43UF0-0 WHISKEY PETE (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 9-12-0 ... P J Dun 7
15 00/4U-0 GO LIGHTLY (Lt-Col J Scott) J Haldane 7-11-9 ... J Scott 7
1983: Earls Brig 8-12-7 P Craggs (4-7 fav) W Hamilton. 3 ran.

13-8 Gayle Warning, 11-4 Colonel Henry, 4 What A Coup, 8 Knockeen Lad, 10 Whiskey Pete, 14 Vulgan's Strike, 16 others.

4.45 GRUNWICK STAKES (flat: £688: 2m) (22)

2 DIGGER BARNES (J Wright) J Wright 5-11-10 ... Mr A Wight 7
3 HAND OVER (Mrs M Haggas) M W Dickinson 5-11-10 ... P A Farrell 7
6 MUST FLY (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-10 ... J O'Gorman 7
7 RURAL SCENE (Mrs F Walton) F Walton 5-11-10 ... Mr A Robson 7
8 0 STRETCH OUT (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-10 ... K Jones
9 WOODSIDE (Mrs K Craggs) Mrs K Craggs 6-11-10 ... Mr P Craggs
11 MILLHOUSE MAJIC (J Storey) J Storey 6-11-5 ... Mr C Storey 7
12 MUSTANG SALLY (A Beaty) J Parkes 5-11-5 ... Miss A Stokell 7
14 SNIPE SHOOTER (P Monteith) P Monteith 6-11-5 ... Mr P J Dun 7
15 3 VIRAGO LADY (J Keith) Mrs G Reveley 5-11-5 ... A Lang 7
16 BANTEL BOWMAN (Bantel Ltd) C H Bell 4-11-0 ... W Irvine 7
17 BOTHAM (K Oliver) K Oliver 4-11-0 ... Mr J Walton
19 EMERALD WATSON (R West) C Thornton 4-11-0 ... J D Davies 7
20 GREEN GORSE (S Green) N Crump 4-11-0 ... R Balfour 7
21 HUBLI (A Lumley-Frank) C H Bell 4-11-0 ... Miss M Bell
22 JACK BURNS (J Nelson) J Nelson 4-11-0 ... Mr R Robinson 7
24 PALLETAIT (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 4-11-0 ... Miss T Waggott 7
25 RANDOM TIME (Mrs B McKinney) J Haldane 4-11-0 ... Mr L Hudson
26 REVELANTE (D Naylor-Leyland) C H Bell 4-11-0 ... Mr D Naylor-Leyland
29 FLEETWOOD (Mrs J Love) J Love 4-10-9 ... Mr S Love 7
30 GREY LIL (J McDonald) R Allan 4-10-9 ... A MacWilliams 7
32 SEA SAND (Mrs M Nisbet) K Oliver 4-10-9 ... Miss A Rogers 7
1983: Snow Bounder 5-11-13 Mr D Browne (4-5 fav) M Dickinson. 25 ran.

5-2 Emerald Watson, 7-2 Hand Over, 9-2 Hubli, 6 Virago Lady, 10 Green Gorse, 14 Stretch Out, Sea Sand, 16 others.

Kelso selections

By Michael Seely

1.45 Shumard. 2.15 Hill's [illegible]

RUGBY UNION: JOHN PLAYER CUP QUARTER-FINAL DRAW

Holmes can remove lingering doubts

By David Hands

The successful return of Terry Holmes, the Wales and British Lions scrum half, to first-class rugby in Cardiff's Welsh Cup quarter-final win over Newbridge last Saturday inevitably begs the question whether his return to the national side is imminent. The next Welsh squad training is not until March 8, when the team to play England at Twickenham will also be announced.

Before that date, Holmes will have the opportunity to play another game for Cardiff, against Ebbw Vale this Saturday, and on March 10 his club meet Pontypool - which might be considered as good a test as any, of whether a player is fit enough to play international rugby.

It was suggested at the weekend that both Welsh Cup semi-finals, Cardiff v Llanelli, and Aberavon v Neath, should be played on the same afternoon at the National Stadium. The decision lies with the WRU competitions committee, but it seems unlikely to happen, if only for logistic reasons. The suggestion has been raised before and rejected.

Dusty Hare, the England and Leicester full back, needs seven points from the international with France on Saturday, to pass 5,000 first-class career points. He scored only five for Leicester against Rosslyn Park last Saturday, missing four conversions in his club's 25-16 win.

CLUB MATCHES: Exeter v Bath (7.0); Penarth v Maesteg (7.0); Roundhay v Leeds University.

Wasps are confronted by another difficult hurdle

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

If Wasps win this season's John Player Cup, they will have done so the hard way. After surviving drawn games at Gosforth and Orrell, they must now go to Bath, after yesterday's quarter-final draw, which took all three remaining London clubs away from home.

Harlequins must travel to those most experienced of cup campaigners, Coventry; London Scottish face an awkward tie against Nottingham at Beeston; and the holders, Bristol, after the rare luxury of a home game and a six-try drubbing of London Welsh, resume their cup odyssey by playing Waterloo at Bludellsands.

Had neither been involved in the cup, Bath and Wasps would have played last Saturday; their meeting is postponed only a fortnight, until March 10, and brings together two teams capable, at their best, of playing inventive rugby, but neither of whom have any great record in the cup. It is to be hoped the occasion will not prove too inhibiting.

In that respect John Lawrence, secretary to London Scottish, raised the valid point at yesterday's draw, that the eight fourth round ties had been rich in tries. There were 34 all told, an average of 4.25 a game, which suggests that all is not so sterile as international rugby might suggest.

Ron Jacobs, president of the RFU also welcomed the significant part played by tries in drawn cup games this season: "It's a handling game and rather than deploring the rules – because we don't play for drawn games – I think it does add emphasis to the game," Mr Jacobs said.

THE DRAW

Coventry v Harlequins
Bath v Wasps
Nottingham v London Scottish
Waterloo v Bristol

As luck would have it, Nottingham and London Scottish are due to meet a week after their cup game, as are Coventry and Harlequins, who have an evening game the following Friday. Waterloo, however, do not enjoy regular fixtures with Bristol, and the atmosphere for that game will resemble one of the many county championship finals which have been played at Blundellsands.

Gauntlet, the young Bristol centre who sustained crushed vertebrae at the top of his spine during Saturday's game, will remain in traction at Southmead Hospital for another 10 days.

It seems unlikely, that Waterloo will have Syddall, the England lock, restored to their ranks. He is to have an exploratory operation on the lateral ligaments in his knee, though his club replacement, Reed, had been filling the gap well.

Three members of the successful Nottingham side are in the British Polytechnics team which plays Public Schools Wanderers at East London tomorrow. Hodgkinson, the leading points scorer in England, is at full back, Hartley in the centre and Murphy at scrum half.

The Polytechnics will also have Cramb, the Harlequins stand-off half, in their ranks. Kingston, Cramb's place of study, are in the final of the Polytechnics Cup, sponsored by *Rugby World*, in which they will meet Bristol, at the London Irish ground on March 14. In the semi-finals of the competition, Kingston beat Newcastle 9-6 and Bristol, winners in 1979 and finalists the following three years, beat Trent 17-7.

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS: S Hodgkinson (Trent); S Campbell (Thames), G Hartley (Trent), M Wilson (North Staffs), A Walton (Leeds); R Cramb (Kingston), K Murphy (Trent); G Evans (Middlesex), M Willis (Leeds), T Growcott (Wolverhampton), C Powell (Wolverhampton), N Edwards (Oxford), J Willis (Bristol), K Withey (Kingston), S Russell (South Bank).

ATHLETICS



Melbourne (Reuter) – Steve Ovett (Above) said here yesterday that the Australian 800 and 1,500 metres champion, Mike Hillardt, would prove a tough opponent in the next few weeks.

Ovett, the Olympic 800 metres champion, will prepare for the Los Angeles Games with races in Melbourne on March 6, Sydney on March 11 and Adelaide on March 14.

Ovett said: "Hillardt is the fastest in the world this year with his 1,500 metres. He will be a tough opponent.

"I can prepare a lot better here than at home where it's so cold I have to wear two or three tracksuits."

For the saboteur who has already given up fish fingers . . .

A glorious new campaign to safeguard the fate of the bait

FISHING

Three distinguished scientists were asked not long ago whether fish felt pain. If one may summarise their answers without too much of the usual distortion, they went more or less like this: one scientist said: Yes, fish do feel pain, up to a point; the next said: No, not as we understand it, it depends what you mean by pain, and in any case it is an impossible question.

So there you have the definitive, at least in layman's terms, to the hoary old question which was dragged up some years ago by the R.S.P.C.A. and has been revived now to some extent by a militant wing of the Hunt Saboteurs' Association who are threatening to sabotage angling by throwing stones and by other non-violent methods to stop this 'obscene and cruel sport.'

It might be as well to remind ourselves at this point that scientific answers on pain are of no relevance whatever to the saboteur whose motivation largely religious, based on the sanctity of life of all creatures. He lives in another world.

I remember sometime ago having a discussion on television with one of the antis. I was in rather an impish mood and elaborated on the terrible suffering of cod, hundreds of cod, thousands of cod, all squeezed together in a net, tumbled alive on to the deck of a trawler and immediately seized and gutted. Was that not more cruel than angling? Yes, he said, it was, and as soon as he had heard how cruel commercial fishermen were, he had given up eating fish fingers.

This is the stuff of which martyrs are made, the true glory of sacrifice, for if a man can look forward unafraid to a culinary life based largely on the soya bean he is certainly not going to be diverted from his faith by scientists.

There are other causes to which a man can turn his hand, for there is nothing so rewarding in his religion than drawing attention to the evils of his fellows. What better and more appropriate in present circumstances than following up the campaign started, for example, by John Gay?

"Around the steel no tortur'd worm
shall twine
No blood of living insect stain my
line. . . ."

Admittedly Gay wrote that in 1720 and we have not seen worming decline all that much since then but in these affairs one can hardly expect quick results; indeed, there was an unfortunate setback around 1870 when an Edinburgh lawyer devised a crucifix of hooks on which a hung worm could live much longer than if he was impaled in the ordinary way.

There is clearly much to be done. Whether a campaign mounted, say, against the Birmingham Anglers to give up worm in favour of bread paste would have much success is open to doubt, but it would stand a better chance than asking them to give up angling altogether. It would also – and this might be a secondary advantage – be less liable to provoke reprisals than throwing stones.

Conrad Voss Bark

CRICKET: NEW ZEALAND TRIUMPH WITH LIMITED RESOURCES

Turning point that cornered Willis

From Derek Hodgson
Auckland

One grey, chilly Sunday afternoon in Christchurch was the fulcrum of England's tour of New Zealand. Had England avoided the follow-on that day, as they should and could have done, then the second Test match might have been saved, if not won, and a tour that will be written off as mostly failure would have been hailed a success.

England went on to lose the three-match Test series 1-0 and then compensated – marginally – by winning the one-day series 2-1. Nothing will stick in English memory so much as that day in Christchurch when England, 53 for seven overnight in reply to New Zealand's 307, were bowled out for 82 and 92.

In a situation in which a Boycott or an Edrich would have relished hugely, sitting on the splice all day and defying the world, England could not find one batsman able to build an innings, although honourable mention ought to be made of Gatting's 19 not out in the first innings and Randall's 25, amid the debris of the tail, in the second. What dear old Kenny Barrington would have said about it all is unthinkable in polite company.

Once a Test match behind, England had no hope of recovery at Auckland, a foredoomed draw. They might have won in Wellington and, indeed, were in a winning position, but were foiled by a pitch that actually improved day by day and by some courageous and forthright batting by Martin Crowe and Coney.

In the one-day matches England looked much the smarter side in the first two, when they were the more tactically aware and superior in bowling and fielding. All went horribly wrong in the final match at Eden Park last Saturday when, curiously, Willis won the toss for the first time in six spins with Howarth.

Before being too condemnatory of England, their opponents are entitled to a few words of praise. Howarth is an astute captain who has benefited enormously, as have Wright and Hadlee, from his finishing education in England county cricket. New Zealand's three principal players know their English opponents far better than they do some of the competitors they meet in domestic competitions.

Howarth has no more than 14 international class players to choose from in New Zealand and uses his limited resources wisely and well against opponents who, on tour, can rarely deploy any greater strength against him. Howarth is a Robin Hood in Sherwood Forest, with his merry men about him, he is all but invincible. But outside Nottingham gates, against a mailed norman knight9

This particular Robin Hood is leading Surrey next summer and an interesting season it could be at the Oval, with all kinds of opportunities for cocking snooks at bearded Sheriff Gatting and his acolytes at Lord's. More seriously, what England will hve to consider in the future is a full three-months' tour of New Zealand, playing five Test matches. Such is the public interest that Napier and Dunedin could probably sustain Test matches as well-supported as those in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, while New Zealand has gone plainly dotty over one-day cricket. The total receipts for the tour will be more than NZ$1m (£454,000).



Hadlee (top) and Randall: Nottingham colleagues, uncompromising opponents in New Zealand.

As to why England failed this time is a question that can be answered in at least two ways. Had Foster been fit to bowl on the Christchurch pitch England might have won the second Test match: had Tavaré found his normal form there would have been some cement about England's order.

The players whose career prospects have notably improved have been Smith, Marks and Foster. Smith has applied himself rigorously. Marks, once reassured of his place, grew in stature almost visibly. Foster is a natural bowler and competitor.

Randall, Taylor and Willis also had successful tours, Randall being the hero more than once and emerging as England's premier batsman. Taylor is the nonpareil and Willis, by husbanding his strength and stamina, is a wonderful example to all fast bowlers everywhere.

As a captain he has the admirable quality of seemingly growing stronger from defeat and the question posed before the start of the tour, who to replace him, is no nearer the answering.

Gower has always looked good without scoring many runs and has suffered more than most for being Hadlee's prime target and from umpiring decisions, a statement that must be qualified by saying that overall the umpiring was first class.

Lamb remains a puzzle. He has the strokes and the ambition. He likes making runs and yet one always feels he has finished at least 50 runs short of what he should have scored. Botham had one of his old gala days in the first Test match and has bowled well in the one-day games. He has looked fit and sharp throughout, but the suspicion of wear and tear, of the need of a rest from cricket, remains.

The other six members of the party of 15 have a month in Pakistan to recover from a poor time in New Zealand. Cowans is advancing, but slowly, and the captain never knows quite what to expect. Dilley picked up another strain and was then almost completely shut out by Cowans. Fowler is a batsman who needs and likes plenty of work which, once he had been left out of the Test side, simply was not available in this itinerary.

Tavaré, too, did not get enough match practice. Gatting has been much criticized for his hitting across the line, but far too often he has come in late with no alternative but to swingat almost every ball.

That leaves Cook, who began the tour bowling in his usual free-flowing attacking style, reverted to what might be called his Sunday afternoon line and was then forgotten after the first Test match in Wellington. It was a sad and serious misuse of a talented leftarm spinner. It is to be hoped that Cook, more than any other, may get the chance to recover himself in Karachi and Lahore.

Test party grounded in Sydney

England's cricketers, already on a tight schedule for Friday's First Test in Karachi against Pakistan, had to make an overnight emergency stop in Australia yesterday. After leaving Auckland they were half-way over the Tasman Sea when one of the starboard engines on their British Airways Boeing 747 developed trouble.

The plane was diverted to Sydney where for three hours engineers attempted to repair the fault. Within minutes of taking off again, the engine once more began to play up and the plane relanded at Sydney at 9pm with no chance of the fault being repaired before Sydney's 10pm curfew on international flights.

Helmets fit Bradman

Adelaide (Reuter) – Sir Donald Bradman has told the visiting Sri Lankan under-19 team yesterday that he would have worn a batting helmet in the 1932-33 bodyline series had one been available. Sir Donald, aged 75, made the remark during a surprise appearance at the Australia v Sri Lanka youth international match at the Adelaide Oval.

While posing with the Sri Lankan team for a series of photographs, he picked up a helmet and put it on, saying: "We should have had those in 1932." Asked about his remark later, he said: "I suppose if helmets were around in those days I would have worn one."

SCORES: Sri Lanka 292 and 150 for 5; Australia 449 for 8 dec. Match drawn.

President expects no problems

Karachi (Reuter) – The president of the Pakistan cricket board, Major-General Safdar Butt, said yesterday that he expected no problems from protesting students during the three-match Test series against England which starts here on Friday.

Meanwhile, the British Government is so far satisfied with the arrangements being made in Pakistan for the safety and security of the England team, Mr Ray Whitney, Under Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in a Commons written reply yesterday.

● Graeme Wood (173 not out) and Geoff Marsh (159) shared a third-wicket partnership of 330 against New South Wales in Sydney yesterday to gain the points Western Australia needed to stage the Sheffield Shield final on their home ground in Perth next month.

Western Australia finished top of the final Shield table after taking four first-innings points from their drawn match with New South Wales.

HOBART: Queensland 223 and 333; Tasmania 166 and 304 (M Ray 76, P Faulkner 70 not out). Queensland won by 86 runs.
SYDNEY: New South Wales 292 and 74 for 1; Western Australia 359 for 5 dec (G Wood 173 not out, G Marsh 159). Match drawn.
MELBOURNE: South Australia 520 for 7 dec and 102 for no wkt (G Bishop 51 not out); Victoria 609 (S O'Donnell 130, W Whiteside 111). Match drawn.

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Western Australia	10	4	6	0	76
Queensland	10	4	4	2	74
Tasmania	10	2	5	3	44
New South Wales	10	1	5	4	36
South Australia	10	1	7	2	26
Victoria	10	1	7	2	20

● An undefeated 141 by Ameil Rajah and 66 not out from Pramagh Moosai earned Trinidad and Tobago an draw against Leeward Islands at St John's, Antigua in the final match of the Shell Shield, although they remained in last place in the table.

St JOHN'S: Trinidad and Tobago 337 and 289 for 3 (A Rajah 141 not out, P Moosai 66 not out).

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	NR	Pts
Barbados	5	2	2	1	0	48
Guyana	5	1	3	1	0	41
Jamaica	5	2	0	2	1	36
Leeward Is	5	1	3	1	1	36
Windward Is	5	1	2	0	2	32
Trinidad	5	0	2	3	0	17

● Kent have arranged two 50-over matches against Essex, at Canterbury on April 18 and at Chelmsford the following day.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

British Championship
Scotland v Wales (8.0)
UEFA U-21 championship
Quarter-final, first leg
England v France (Hillsborough)

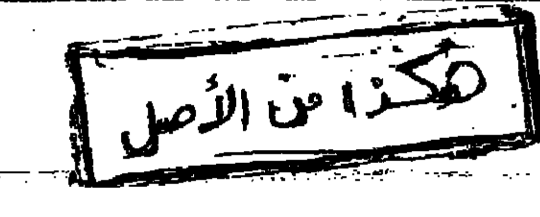
First division
Birmingham City v West Bromwich A
Second division
Brighton and H A v Cambridge United (7.45)
Shrewsbury Town v Middlesbrough
Third division
Hull City v Oxford United
Sheffield United v Plymouth Argyle
Fourth division
Darlington v Northampton Town
Wrexham v York City

Associate members cup first round
Millwall v Gillingham (7.45)
Newport v Bristol Rovers

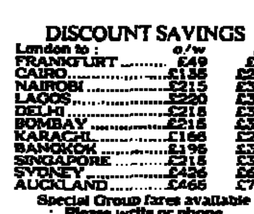
SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Berwick v Arbroath; Forfar v Albion.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Burton v Rhyl. Cup, second round: S Liverpool v Mossley. Second round replay: Matlock v Macclesfield.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bob Lord Trophy: Third rond, first leg: Runcorn v Telford.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Wealdstone v Bath.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby v Manchester United (2.0); Liverpool v Sheffield Wednesday (2.0).
CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Bradford City v Huddersfield (3.0); Coventry v Grimsby (2.0); Preston v Barnsley (2.0); Rotherham v Oldham (2.0); Wigan v Middlesbrough (2.0).
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Chelsea v Bristol Rovers (2.15); Crystal Palace v Ipswich; Fulham v Swindon (2.0); Q P Rangers v Brighton (2.0); Southampton v Luton; Swansea v Arsenal; Tottenham v Birmingham (2.0).
LONDON SENIOR CUP–Second Round: Collier Row v Hayes.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bromley v Tooting and Mitcham; Harrow v Barking; Walthamstow Avenue v Hitchin. First division: Clapton v Metropolitan Police; Farnborough v Boreham Wood; Hampton v Lewes; Wembley v Aveley; Windsor and Eton v Chesham. Second division: Finchley v Leyton-Wingate; Grays v St Albans City.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Banstead v Fleet; Berkhamsted v Chalfont St Peter; Burham v Kingsbury; Harefield v Flackwell Heath; Haringey Borough v Wolverton; Whyteleafe v Chertsey.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Stourbridge v Witney; Welling v AP Leamington. Midland division: Oldbury v Redditch. Southern division: Crawley v Erith and Belvedere.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE CUP: Brentford v Bournemouth (2.0); Cambridge United v Peterborough (2.0).
ESSEX SENIOR CUP: Semi-Final: Clapton v Harlow.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: National league, first division: Bracknell Pirates v Sunderland.
HOCKEY: Representative match (2.15): RAF v British Police (at RAF Uxbridge).
SNOOKER: Yamaha International (at the Assembly Rooms, Derby, 2.0 and 7.0).



Legal Appointments



BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM £3.25 a line (minimum 3 lines)

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FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page, £5 a line. 01-837 1234 ext 7714

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

DEATHS

MINKOFF.—On 26th February, Gabriel Joseph, in Melbourne, Australia, after long illness, husband of Dorothy, father of Richard and Kate, father-in-law of Tina and grandfather of Helen.

MORTON – On February 26th at home, George Archibald, husband of the late Sheila, beloved father of Bruce, Fiona and Lindsay. Funeral service Beckenham Crematorium, Friday, March 2nd at 3.40pm. Flowers to Francis Chappell 231 High Street, Bromley.

PENTLAND on 14th February 1984, Lord Pentland, John Sinclair, suddenly in New York. Funeral has taken place.

PITTMAN. On February 23rd, peacefully in hospital, Michael Thomas, beloved son of Gwen and the late Thomas George Pittman and brother of Sandra. Funeral at Lambeth Crematorium, Blackshaw Rd, London SW19, Thursday 1st March at 1.30pm. Flowers if desired to Royal Arsenal Co-Op Society, 679 Garrett Lane, SW17.

ROBERTS – On February 26th, 1984, peacefully in hospital in her 102nd year, Bertha Louisa, widow of the Reverend Arthur Henry Roberts, much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral service at Westcote, Gloucestershire, March 2nd, 12.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations to United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. 15 Tufton St, SW1.

SMITH– at Gartnaval General Hospital, Glasgow, on February 26th, 1984, Davina Martin Murray (née Ina Murray) beloved wife of the late Harry Mellis Smith, Drumchorrie Cottage, Pitlochry. Dearly loved mother of Murray and much loved grandmother. Funeral service at the West Church, Pitlochry, at 1pm on Wednesday, February 29th. Thereafter to Pitlochry Cemetery to which all friends are respectfully invited.

STENHOUSE – On 26th February, peacefully and courageously in Cambridge, Charles Edward J.P., past Mayor of Harrow. Father of Susan (Riches) and John and grandfather. Cremation private. No flowers, donations to Mayor of Harrow's Charity Fund. Civic Centre, Harrow, if desired.

BIRTHS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

IN MEMORIAM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS

DEATHS

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THEATRES

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; the day's television previewed at 6.55; a review of the morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18; exercises at 7.25; horoscopes at 8.33; Alison Mitchell's money matters and Glynn Christian's cookery hints between 8.30 and 9.00.
9.00 Craft of the Potter. The last programme of the series featuring the work of leading potters (r) 9.25 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School, presented by Don Spencer (r). 10.55 Ceefax.
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Music and conversation from the foyer of the Birmingham studios. 1.45 Chock-a-Block.
2.00 Film: Alice Adams* (1935) starring Fred MacMurray and Katharine Hepburn as a small town's most eligible bachelor and the poor but pretty Alice who falls for him. Directed by George Stevens 3.35 Cartoon 3.48 Regional news (not London).
3.50 Magic Roundabout (r) 3.55 Play School presented by Ben Thomas 4.20 The Adventures of Tin Tin (r) 4.25 Jackanory. Pippa Guard with part two of What Katy Did 4.40 Charlie Brown. Animated cartoon based on Charles M Schultz's comic strip, Peanuts (r).
5.05 John Craven's Newsround 5.10 Grange Hill. Pogo waits with bated breath at the prospect of a nude model at the art club.
5.40 Sixty Minutes including news from Moira Stuart at 5.40.
6.40 Harty. His guests are Shirley Bassey, giving her first chat show interview for ten years, and jump jockey-turned trainer, Bob Champion and his wife.
7.10 The District Nurse. Episode eight and Megan receives a deputation from her employers who have received a number of complaints about Megan's work.
7.40 A Question of Sport. Two teams of sporting celebrities under the captaincies of Bill Beaumont and Emlyn Hughes compete in a test of sporting knowledge.
8.10 Dallas. J R nearly comes to grief in his dealings with Edgar Randolph; Clayton voices his doubts about his future; Mark places his future in Pam's claws; while Marilee insists on geological reports on the offshore tracts.
9.00 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.
9.10 News with Sue Lawley.
9.35 Play for Today: Z for Zachariah, by Anthony Garner. Anthony Andrews and Pippa Hinchley star as the sole survivors of a nuclear holocaust. Set in a valley, the play traces the development of the relationship between the 16-year-old girl and the contaminated scientist who stumbles across the girl's home (see Choice).
11.33 News headlines.
11.35 Beyond the Last Oasis. The story of Ted Edwards, a Salford teacher and folk singer who, last year, became the first man to cross, alone, one of the remotest corners of the Sahara desert.
12.05 Weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; alarm call at 6.40 and 8.45; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05 a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; guests Kajagoogoo at 7.40; pop music news at 7.50; pop video at 7.55; inside Dave Swatnick's house at 8.10; video report at 8.35; baby talk at 9.03.

ITV LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Elementary arithmetic. 9.45 Memories. 10.04 How clay is made into cups and saucers. 10.21 German people and languages. 10.43 Evolution. 11.08 Riding places for children. 11.25 How potatoes become crisps. 11.38 French conversation.
12.00 Cockleshell Bay. Seaside adventure of the puppet Cockle twins. 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets (r) 12.30 The Sullivans.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news with Robin Houston. 1.30 A Plus. 2.00 Crown Court: Burnt Futures. A schoolboy is accused of starting a fire at his school. He argues that he made his confession under duress.
2.30 Snooker. Coverage of the Yamaha Keyboards International Masters from the Assembly Rooms, Derby. 3.30 Miracles Take Longer.
4.00 Cockleshell Bay. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 Batfink. Cartoon adventures of bat with steel wings. 4.20 On Safari. Christopher Biggins on a studio safari with guests Suzanne Dando and Eddie Kidd. 4.45 CBTV. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. Jack Sugden still leaves Jackie Merrick with a feeling of unease. Would Matt Skilbeck make a better companion?
5.45 News 6.00 Thames news.
6.20 Help! Community action news.
6.30 Crossroads. Iris Scott is humiliated by Gary Corbett; Lisa Walters learns something about her parentage; and Colin Sands poses a bit of a problem for Diane Hunter.
6.55 Reporting London. Jackie Spreckley investigates whether or not the government is planning to phase out London's adult education service and Michael Wilson discovers who is entitled to display coats of arms.
7.30 Name That Tune. Fast moving musical quiz compered by Tom O'Connor.
8.00 The Sweeney: I Want The Man. Detectives Regan and Carter are tipped off that Frankie Little and his daughter 'will be doing business' in a local restaurant. Starring John Thaw, Dennis Waterman and Roy Kinnear.
9.00 The Jewel in the Crown. Episode nine: The Towers of Silence. Susan's baby has been rescued from the fire but what of Susan herself? The Laytons move into Rose Cottage while Barbie goes to a place overlooking The Towers of Silence.
10.00 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.
10.10 News.
10.40 Midweek Sports Special. There is coverage of the Yamaha Keyboards International Masters snooker tournament and highlights from tonight's football match between Scotland and Wales at Hampden Park.
12.15 Night Thoughts from the Rev Allan G. Scott.



Dario Fo, the subject of an Arena profile: BBC2 10.00pm

CHOICE

● The scourge of the Italian Roman Catholic Church and the Establishment, actor, playwright and clown, Dario Fo, is the subject of an entertaining Arena profile, **THE THEATRE OF DARIO FO** (BBC2 10.00pm). Originally from Lombardy, Fo began studying the theatre at the age of 25 after toying with a career in architecture. He became a television star, performing for 20 years in his own show that consistently topped the ratings with viewing figures of around 20 million. His switch to overtly political and religious satire during the Sixties led to his being banned from the box and denied entry into the United States – states of affairs that still exist. Arena has filmed him in all his roles – as a workshop teacher explaining and demonstrating the techniques of Commedia del Arte; as an actor performing his one-man masterpiece, Mistero Buffo, at the Venice Carnival; and with his wife, Franca Rame, in the Teatro Commune in Milan which they formed in the Sixties for the purpose of bringing their message to the masses by performing their satirical, iconoclastic, plays to vast audiences at factories up and down the country. A fascinating portrait that skilfully illustrates the wit and thinking of an extremely funny and sincere man.

● Pippa Hinchley and Anthony Andrews are the two characters in a rather far-fetched Play for Today **Z FOR ZACHARIAH** (BBC1 9.35pm), a post-nuclear holocaust drama about the relationship between Ann, a 16-year-old farmer's daughter and John, a scientist – Society's only survivors. Fortunately, the performance of Mr Andrews and, especially, Miss Hinchley, takes ones mind off the shaky scenario – we are meant to believe that the shape of a valley prevented any of the deadly radiation to permeate this particular part of Britain. Anyway, Ann has just about come to terms with orphanhood when John comes into her life, clothed in a silver survival suit and helmet. Naturally suspicious, Ann watches him from a distance – too far, alas, to warn him that he is bathing in a contaminated stream. From there the play traces the developing relationship between the ill-starred, latter-day Adam and the innocent Eve until its predictable ending. The play marks a notable television debut for the appealing 17-year-old Miss Hinchley.

BBC 2

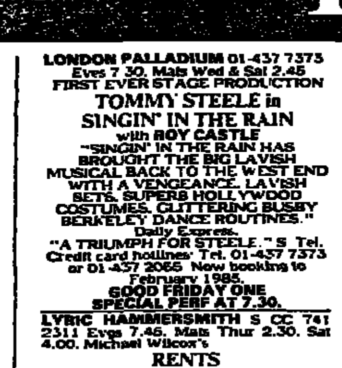
6.05 Open University: Modern Art: Manet. 6.30 A Renaissance Church in Rome. 6.55 Biology: Life on Seashores. 7.20 Science Into the Earth. 7.45 Genetics. 8.10 Closedown.
8.55 Daytime on Two: The evolution of the modern symphony orchestra. 9.26 Modern history: the reasons why Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. 9.48 Maths: numbers growing. 10.10 Look and read. 10.35 Geography: the upland country of North Wales.
11.00 Watch. 11.17 The life of a slum dweller in Brazil's third largest city. Belo Horizonte. 11.40 The role of the Church in the Middle Ages. 12.03 Part six of David Bellamy's botanical exploration of North America. 12.35 Inside Japan. Part six. 1.05 Maths for O-level studying adults 1.19 Electronics in action 1.40 Children in hospital. 2.00 You and Me. 2.15 The tundra. 2.40 Butterflies and colourful flowers in an inner-city classroom. 3.00 Ceefax.
5.10 Coventry: What Can I Do? The fate of 16-year old Coventry school leavers in 1982.
5.35 News summary with subtitles.
5.40 That Was the Year. Chris Serle takes a modern look at the year 1605 in which, among other things, the King's doctor warned of the evils of smoking.
6.10 Junior Kick Start. (r).
6.35 Cartoon.
6.40 Tucker's Luck. With the HP to pay on his motorbike Tucker decides it is time to ask for more money for the work he does for Mr Humphries (r).
7.10 Travellers in Time. Duncan Carse introduces a film, made in 1924, that follows the migration of the Bakhtiari tribe across Persia (r).
7.40 Top Gear: At the Geneva Motor Show.
8.10 Chronicle: The Wreck in Campese Bay. The story of Oxford archaeologist Mensun Bound's quest for the wreck of an Etruscan ship that sank off the Italian coast 2,600 years ago.
9.00 Alas Smith and Jones. Comedy sketches from Mel Smith, Griff Rhys Jones and friends.
9.30 Your Life in Their Hands. Somerset farmer Donald House is operated on by Mr Jeyasingham, thoracic surgeon and Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, to see if the shadow on the lung necessitates the lung's removal.
10.00 Arena: The Theatre of Dario Fo. A portrait of the celebrated Italian man of the theatre (see Choice).
10.50 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.
11.00 Newsnight
11.45 Open University: Psychology: It's a Matter of Opinion. 12.10 Systems, Boundaries and Biases. Ends at 12.40.

CHANNEL 4

4.45 People's Court. In the second sitting of the week retired judge, Joseph A. Wapner, rules on the cases of Unfulfilled Fantasy and Water, Water Everywhere.
5.15 Years Ahead. Magazine programme for the older viewer. Llew Gardner talks to Geoffrey Household, author of Rogue Male and its sequel, Rogue Justice; there is film of a highly successful local action group – Tooting Active Pensioners; a risotto recipe; advice on income tax; and in the archive spot a Twenties film about novelty accessories for smokers.
6.00 Bewitched. Vintage American comedy series about a man, his witch wife and sorceress mother-in-law. This week he incurs the wrath of his mother-in-law when he refuses to let his wife attend a wedding in Egypt. He suspects sorcery when he encounters trouble at the office.
6.30 Cautionary Tales. The first of a new series of eight programmes designed to acquaint viewers with their legal rights. Three cases are considered this evening, those of Mrs Balls, accused of shoplifting in her local supermarket; 'Christopher' who was arrested on suspicion of a drugs offence; and Andre, apprehended as a football hooligan. The series is presented by solicitor Bernard Simmons with practical advice from Barbara Cohen, legal officer of the NCCL and Tim Midgley of North Kensington Law Centre.
7.00 Channel Four News includes a profile of Democratic nomination hopeful, Gary Hart.
7.50 Comment. On the soap-box this evening is Cassandra Kent, director of consumer affairs, Good Housekeeping magazine.
8.00 Brookside. Marie's new-found wealth bodes well for the future and she starts planning a wedding for Michelle and private education for the twins. Bobby Grant is not so optimistic. He finds more solace in his home brewing than in his new job.
8.30 Tom Keating on Impressionism. In the third of his six-part series the late Tom Keating concentrates on the techniques of Claude Monet.
9.00 Film: Ace Eli and Rodger of the Skies (1973) starring Cliff Robertson. 1920s drama about a World War One flying ace having difficulty adjusting to peace-time. When his wife is killed in an aeroplane crash Eli Walford takes his 12-year old son, Rodger, on a stunt flying tour of the United States. Directed by John Erman.
10.45 Black on Black. Magazine programme for Britain's black communities. Presented by Louise Bennett.
11.40 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing: Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.20 Your Letters. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather: Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411: Smoking and Health. Taking part are David Simpson, the director of ASH, and Dr Bobbie Jacobson of the chest unit at London's Whittington Hospital.
10.00 News; From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Morning Story: A Good Firm to Work For by Jackie Edwards.
10.45 Daily Service from Manchester.
11.00 News; Travel: Thirty-Minute Theatre† Mary by Frances Gray.
11.33 Wildlife.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice.
12.27 Legal, Decent, Honest and Truthful† 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.35 A Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Todays edition includes an investigation by Roz Davies into television and radio "soap operas" such as Dynasty and The Archers. There is also the fourth instalment of Wycliffe and the Pea-green boat.
3.00 News; Afternoon Theatre† Another Applicant by Nick Fisher. Cummings (Clive Panto) is pleased with the way his interview is going. Mr Wheeler (Peter Baldwin) seems to have taken a liking to him – to the extent that the other applicant for the job surely won't stand a chance. But Rowena (Sherrie Hewson) plays a special role in Cummings's life. This is a strange story of vampyrism, the business world, and married life.
4.00 News; Just After Four.
4.10 Smoking – Health Hazard or Right? Julian Hale reports from Scotland and California on the campaign for unpolluted air.
4.40 Story Time: Vera by Elizabeth Von Arnium (2).
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Don't Stop Now – It's Fundation†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now. How much do GPs really know about the benefits and risks of the drugs they prescribe for us?.
7.50 File On 4.
8.20 A Short Voyage Up River. Jonathan Raban goes to Fowey in Cornwall for the winter†
9.05 In Touch. Magazine for the visually handicapped.
9.30 Weinberger Verses Thompson. Highlights of yesterday's evening debate at the Oxford Union between E P Thompson, leading light of the Nuclear Disarmament Movement and Caspar Weinberger, American Defence Secretary. The motion was: That there is no moral difference between the foreign policies of the United States of America and the Soviet Union.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: The Lost Domain by Alain-Fournier (12).
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.40 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.



E. P. Thompson: He takes part in the Oxford Union debate (Radio 4, 9.30pm)

12.23 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.
ENGLAND VHF with above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools: 10.45 The Song Tree. 11.00 Time and Tune. 11.20 Time to Move. 11.40 Listen and Read. 11.55 Reading Music. 1.55pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 2.00 History: Not So Long Ago. 2.20 Introducing Science Extra: Junior Electronics 2.40 Pictures in Your Mind (stories) 5.50-5.55 PM (continued) 11.00 Study On 4: The Chip Shop with Barry Norman. 11.30-12.00 Open University: 11.30 Open Forum: Students' Magazine 11.50 Music Interlude. 12.30-1.10am Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: 12.30 General Studies: Radio 3/4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Wagner's Overture Rienzi; Haydn's Symph No 65 in A; Grieg's Suite Sigurd Jorsalfer†; 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Schumann's Overture Hermann and Dorothea; Janacek's Ballad of Blanik; Hummel's Septet in C. Op 114 (Military); Sousa's Starts and Stripes forever.†9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Bach's last two decades, 1685-1750. Partita No 6 in E min (Blandine Verlet, harpsichord); three pairs of chorale preludes (Ralph Downes, organ).†
10.00 Scandinavian string music. Rias Sinfonietta, conducted by Jiri Starek. Works by Gade, Greig (Elegiac Melodies, Op 34), Sibelius (Suite champetre, Op 98b), Wiren.†
10.40 BBC Singers, conducted by John Poole. Songs by Poulenc (Sept Chansons), Delius Kodaly.†
11.15 Mozart piano music. Walter Klien plays two sonatas, two fantasies and a rondo.†
12.10 Midday Concert; part one. Britten's Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes; Mozart's Violin Concerto No 3 in G maj (K 216), with Dong Suk Kang (piano). BBC Philharmonic, conducted by Sir Charle Mackerras.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Midday Concert; part two. Dvorak's Symphony No 5.†
1.50 Lute music. Christopher Wilson as soloist.†
2.15 Concertgebouw Orchestra (cond Bernard Haitink) plays Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 2 (2.45 interval reading); Bruckner's Symph No 9.
4.00 Alexander Baillie plays cello works by Schumann, Faure, Francoeur.†
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. Jeremy Siepmann includes works by Bach, Wagner, Gesualdo and Leclair. There is also Schumann's Piano Quartet Op 47.†
6.30 Alfonso Ferrabosco the Younger. Motets and Lamentations.†
7.00 The Poets' War. Dominic Hibberd examines Great War poetry anthologies.
7.30 London Sinfonietta concert; part one. Contemporary music from Sheffield City Hall, with Oliver Knussen as conductor. Robin Holloway's Aria; Elliot Carter's In Sleep, In Thunder.†
8.15 Churchill's Backbench War. Dr Sheila Lawlor looks at the record. She suggests that Sir Winston often made decisions out of political expediency (r).
8.35 London Sinfonietta Concert: part two. Birtwistle's Carmen Arcadiae; H.K. Gruber Mister Frankenstein.
9.20 Force. Paul Nicholson short story.
9.40 William Mathias songs (composer at the piano). The singer is Kenneth Bowen. The work we hear is The Fields of Praise.†
10.15 English Orchestral Music. Works by Mackenzie, Vaughan Williams, Bridgeand Delius. BBC Scottish Symph Orch. The Vaughan Williams work is the Fantasia on Sussex folk songs, and the Delius is the first broadcast performance of the Suite for violin and orchestra (1890/1).†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF: Open University. 6.15am-6.55, 6.15 19th Century novel. 6.35 Music. 11.30pm-11.40, 11.30, Pope's Essay on Man.

Radio 2

4.am Bill Rennells.† 5.30 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan incl. 8.31 Racing Bulletin.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12pm Steve Jones incl 1.05 Sport.† 2.00 Gloria Hunniford incl 2.02; 3.02 Sport.† 3.30 Music All the Way.† 4.00 David Hamilton incl. 4.02; 5.05 Sport.† 6.00 John Dunn incl. 6.02 Sport 6.45 Sport and Classified Results.† 8.00 The Golden Age of Hollywood A history of the American movie (17) 1950. Tonight's instalment of this radio history of the movies concentrates on the spectacular films of Cecil B. De Mille, such as The Ten Commandments, and Samson and Delilah. The narrator is James Mason.† 9.00 Night Owls with Dave Gelly.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 Hubert Gregg. First of twelve programmes on special people in entertainment 1: Cole Porter. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (Stereo from midnight). 1am Patrick Lunt presents Nightride.† 3.00 Big Band Special.† 3.30-4.0 String Sound.†

Radio 1

6am Gary Davies. 7.00 Adrian John. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, incl. 12.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel.† VHF Radios 1 and 2 4am With Radio 2. 10pm. With Radio 1. 12.00-4am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Classical Record Review. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 After Hours. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Alexis Korner's Rhythm and Blues. 10.00 Discovery. 10.30 A Night to Remember. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Women of the World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly Good Show. 2.30 Sherlock Holmes. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Talking About Music. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15 Letter from London. 9.25 Paperback Choice. 9.30 Musical Memories of Evelyn Barbirolli. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland This Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 After Hours. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Report on Religion. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The Bach Family. 2.30 Sherlock Holmes. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Waveguide. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

BBC1 WALES: 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales headlines. 3.48-3.50 News of Wales headlines. 5.55 Wales today. 12.05 News and weather. SCOTLAND. 12.55pm-1.00 The Scottish news. 5.55 Scotland: Sixty minutes. 12.05am News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND. 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland news. 3.48 3.50 Northern Ireland news. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 12.05am News and weather. ENGLAND. 5.55pm Regional news magazine. 12.10am close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Hwnt Ac Yma. 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35 Y Ganrif Hon. 2.55 Interval 3.05 Face the Press. 3.30 Motor Show. 4.00 Union World. 4.25 Mary Tyler Moore Show. 4.55 Pictiwrs Bach. 5.05 Billidowcar. 5.30 Buck Rogers. 6.30 No Problem! 7.00 Newddion Saith. 7.30 Cefn Gwlad. 8.00 Almanac. 8.30 Elinor. 9.10 St Elswhere. 10.05 Other side of the Tracks. 11.00 Eleventh Hour. 12.05am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Farming Brief. 12.30pm-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 People Like Us. 2.10-2.30 Canon in the Kitchen. 3.30-4.00 Sullivans. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Coast To Coast. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Company, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead. 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30 Cartoon. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am News, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30pm Gardens for All. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Bygones. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Tuesday Topic, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 12.30pm-1.00 That's Hollywood. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 All Kinds of Country. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.30-2.00 Exchange Flags. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan. Haywood). 12.20am Closedown..

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am News, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 About Gaelic. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.10 Job Spot. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.35 What's Your Problem? 7.05 Take the High Road. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Late Call, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 5.15-5.45 Looks Familiar. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Towers of Silence (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Living Water, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Magic Micro Mission. 6.00 Channel Report 6.30 Herbs for All. 7.00 Mr Smith. 7.30-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger. 12.15 Closedown.

HTV As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 My Life. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Beverley Hillbillies.* 6.00 News. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.40 Wales at Six.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.45-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 9 to 5. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Survival- 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susann Hayward). 12.15am Closedown.

TSW As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.25 Televiews. 6.35 Vintage Quiz. 7.05 Mr Smith. 7.35-9.00 Film: Heat of Anger (Susan Hayward). 12.15am Postcript. Closedown.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Entertainments

THEATRES

COMEDY 01-930 2578. CC 839 1438. Eves 8, Fri 6 & 8.45, Sat 5 15 & 8.45
BEST MUSICAL Standard Drama award.
BEST MUSICAL N.Y. Drama Critics.
BEST MUSICAL N.Y. Drama Desk.
BEST MUSICAL N.Y. Outer Critics.
THE INTERNATIONAL SMASH HIT MUSICAL COMEDY.
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS Starring ELLEN GREENE
"The funniest lady in town" D. Mail
"I LOVED IT – HOPE IT RUNS FOR A 1,000 YEARS" T. Out
GOOD SEATS AT SOME PERFS FROM £6.00
Group Sales Box Office 930 6123

CRITERION. S 930 3216 930 8577 CC 379 6565 930 9232 Grps 836 3962. Mon to Fri 8.0, Thur mat 2.30, Sat 5.30 & 8 30
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
In "A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" Daily Mail
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE
IAN OGILVY SAM COX ALEXANDRA CHEVITCH ROBERT EAST JAN GOODMAN CHRIS JOHNSTON STUART SHERWIN PAUL TOOTHILL
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE
Written & directed by RAY COONEY
"OUTRAGEOUSLY FUNNY" Daily Telegraph

DUCHESS THEATRE 836 8243 S CC
"BEST MUSICAL" The Observer
SNOOPY THE MUSICAL
NOW BOOKING THROUGH 1984 OVER 150 IRRESISTIBEAGLE PERFORMANCES
CC 930 9232. Grp Sales 930 6123 Keith Prowse (no fee) 636 8686 Tue-Thur 8.00 Fri & Sat 6.0 & 8.30
SUNDAYS AT 4.30
"With Snoopy around, 'Cats' had better watch out" D. Mirror.

DUKE OF YORK'S 01-836 5122. c.c. 836 9837 Group sales 01-930 6123. Eves 7.30 Mats Weds & Sats at 3.0
DONALD SINDEN BERYL REID JOHN McCALLUM DULCIE GRAY NICOLA PAGETT CLIVE FRANCIS HAROLD INNOCENT and BILL FRASER
in JOHN BARTON'S production of
THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL
LAST WEEKS PRIOR TO A EUROPEAN TOUR

GARRICK CC S 01-836 4601. Eves 8.00, Wed Mat 3.00, Sat 5.00 & 8.00
13th HYSTERICAL YEAR. LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD
NO SEX, PLEASE – WE'RE BRITISH
2 HOURS OF NON-STOP LAUGHTER
Directed by Allan Davis
Group Sales Box Office 01-930 6123
OVER 5,000 FANTASTIC PERFS.

FORTUNE 836 2238. CC Hotline 930 9232. Grps 930 6123. Eves 8.0. Mats Thur 3.0. (children ½ price) Sat 4.30. Now in its 2nd year
MR CINDERS
"A most deserved success . . . gets another boost with
LONNIE DONEGAN
who handles the comedy routines with insouciance and matches the singing of Christina Matthews. The melodies roll sweetly from Vivian Ellis – makes you wonder why Britain developed an awe of the Broadway Musical."
"MR CINDERS IS A DELIGHT" F.T.

GLOBE cc 01-437 1592.
Andrew Lloyd Webber presents the
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Society of West End Theatre Award
DAISY PULLS IT OFF
by Denise Deegan
Directed by David Gilmore
"HILARIOUS" LBC
"FULL MARKS FOR DAISY" Std
"I'd be surprised if a more enjoyable evening than this came up this year" F.T. Eves 8 00 Mats Wed 3.00 Sat 5 00
Group Sales 930 6123.
"THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE HOOT AND A SCREAM" S Times

GREENWICH THEATRE. 01-858 7755 Evenings 7 45, Mats Sat 2.30 THE WHITE DEVIL by John Webster. Directed by Philip Prowse. "A production the like of which will not come your way for a very long time" F. Times.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE. 722 9301. Evgs 8.00. Sat Mat 4.30. Tommy Buson, Janet Suzman, Stuart Wilson in BOESMAN AND LENA by Athol Fugard "Intensely moving" Std. "explicit production" Obs. "A tour de force" Times. "an extraordinary experience" D. Tel.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL. 930 9832. Group Sales 01-930 6123
OMAR SHARIF
JUDY CAMPBELL JOHN MOFFATT DEBBIE ARNOLD in
THE SLEEPING PRINCE
by Terence Rattigan
"The most sparkling of fun" – D. Tel. "Triumph . . . glossy and sumptuous production." – D. Mail. "Will pull in the crowds and make the box office till ring with a right royal anthem" – D. Mail. Eves Mon-Sat 7 30 Mat Weds 2 30 Sats 3 0 FINAL WEEK MUST END SATURDAY

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 930 9832. Group Sales 01-930 6123. Previewing March 5, 6 & 7. Opens March 8 at 7.0.
VANESSA REDGRAVE WENDY HILLER CHRISTOPHER REEVE in
THE ASPERN PAPERS
Adapted by Michael Redgrave
Directed by Frith Banbury
Sub. Evgs. Mon-Sat 7.30, Mat. Wed. 2.30, Sats 3.0. FOR A LIMITED SEASON.

KINGS HEAD 226 1916 COMIC CUTS. Dnr 7 Show 8.

LA VIE EN ROSE cc. Gt Windmill Street W1. 437 6312/8380.
CABARET SHOWBAR
2 shows nightly 9.00 & 11.00
GLAMOROUS INTERNATIONAL FLOORSHOW
PARIS AFTER DARK
Featuring Europe's most beautiful girls
Fabulous Specialities. Sensational attractions plus guest artists from the world of showbusiness
COCKTAILS, CABARET, DANCING. Dinner available throughout the evening. Open 7.30-2.am.

LONDON PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 Eves 7 30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.45
FIRST EVER STAGE PRODUCTION
TOMMY STEELE in SINGIN' IN THE RAIN with ROY CASTLE
"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN HAS BROUGHT THE BIG LAVISH MUSICAL BACK TO THE WEST END WITH A VENGEANCE. LAVISH SETS. SUPERB HOLLYWOOD COSTUMES. GLITTERING BUSBY BERKELEY DANCE ROUTINES." Daily Express.
"A TRIUMPH FOR STEELE." S Tel. Credit card hotlines Tel. 01-437 7373 or 01-437 2055 Now booking to February 1985.
GOOD FRIDAY ONE SPECIAL PERF AT 7.30.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH S CC 741 2311 Evgs 7.45. Mats Thur 2.30. Sat 4.00. Michael Wilcox's
RENTS
"Informative, surprising and certainly entertaining" F.T.
LYRIC STUDIO: Evgs 8pm THE MAN WHO FELL IN LOVE WITH HIS WIFE with Tom Bell and Lynn Farleigh.

LYRIC THEATRE Shaftesbury Avenue 01-437 3686 S CC 434 1050. Eves 7.30. Wed Mats 3 00, Sats 5.00 & 8.15
JUDI DENCH
Actress of the Year in a new play Swet and Plays & Players London Theatre Critics' Award
JUDI DENCH MICHAEL WILLIAMS RICHARD VERNON BARBARA LEIGH-HUNT
PACK OF LIES
by Hugh Whitemore
Directed by Clifford Williams
"IF I HAD TO SELECT AN EVENING FROM 1983 WHICH I WOULD NOT EXCHANGE FOR GOLD, THIS IS IT" Jack Tinker. Daily Mail.

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage) Ton't, Tomor 7.30, the award-winning MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS by Athol Fugard (not Cinderella as originally scheduled).

MAYFAIR S CC 629 3036 Mon-Thur 8, Fri & Sat 5 40 & 8 10. Group 930 6123
RICHARD TODD
ERIC LANDER, VIRGINIA STRIDE in
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
"The best thriller for years" S.Mir. "An unabashed winner" S.Exp "A thriller that achieves it all. Sensational" Times. "The most ingenious mystery to have appeared in a decade. A play to be seen" Daily Mail
FOURTH GREAT YEAR
OVER 1250 PERFORMANCES

MERMAID THEATRE. The New Shakespeare Company in association with Lloyds Bank present
SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOPS
HAMLET in Context 12 to 16 & 21 Mar Exploring MACBETH 19, 20, 22, 23 Mar WINTER TALES 27 to 30 March.
11.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunchbreak. All seats £2.50. Workshop phone 01-935 5884/5756 or write NSC, Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, NW1.

MERMAID THEATRE 236 5568
SHEILA GISH in
A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE
by Tennessee Williams
OPENS TONIGHT AT 7.00.
Eves 7.45 Sat Mat 3.00pm.

NATIONAL THEATRE. 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/COTTESLOE. Excellent cheap seats all 3 theatres from 10 a.m. day of perf. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs 928 5933.
NOW BOOKING ALL PERFS TO END MARCH
TOURS OF THE BUILDING (inc backstage) £1.75. Inf. 633 0880.

NEW LONDON cc Drury Lane WC2 01-405 0072 or 01-404 4079. Evgs 7.45 Tues & Sat 3.0 & 7.45.
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Group Bookings 01-405 1567 or 01-930 6123 (Apply daily to Box Office for returns. LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT.)
Bars open 6.45pm.
NEW BOOKING PERIOD NOW OPEN TILL 4th AUGUST '84. POSTAL APPLICATIONS ONLY ACCEPTED FOR PERIOD AUGUST 6th ONWARDS.
THE LONGER YOU WAIT THE LONGER YOU'LL WAIT

OLD VIC. 928 7616. cc 261 1821. Low price preview Ton't 7.30. Opens Tomor 7pm. Subs Eves 7.30, Sat 4.0 & 7.45
Stratford Festival Canada in
THE MIKADO
by Gilbert & Sullivan
"A KNOCKOUT" Times

OLIVIER (NT's open stage). Ton't 7 15 Tomor 2.00 (low price mat) & 7.15 THE RIVALS by Sheridan. (Last perfs Mar 1 to 8 of the award-winning TALES FROM HOLLYWOOD.)

PALACE 437 6834 cc 437 8327 "The amazing
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Chalks up another winner" S Mirror
SONG AND DANCE
Starring LIZ ROBERTSON in TELL ME ON A SUNDAY and WAYNE SLEEP in VARIATIONS. "The best rock-jazz-classical-tapdance-musical-theatre ballet I've witnessed" Derek Jewell Sunday Times. "A milestone . . . it has to be seen" S. Tel. Eves 8.0, Sat 5.45 & 8.30 Some good seats still available most perfs. Group sales 437 6834 or 930 6123.
Final performance on March 31st.
ONLY 5 WEEKS TO GO!
SECOND GREAT YEAR.

PHOENIX THEATRE Charing X Road Tel 01-836 8611/9793/2294 Group Sales 01-930 6123.
Spectacular Traditional Pantomime
SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS
"The Magic of Pantomime lights up the stage" D Tel.
Starring DENISE NOLAN with MIKE NEWMAN
featuring Seven Dwarfs and music made famous by the Walt Disney film. Daily at 2.30 & 7.30 until Fri. Sat at 2.00 & 6 15. LAST 5 DAYS.

PICCADILLY. Open from 7 pm to 2 am. COCKTAILS – SUPPER – DANCING – MIDNIGHT CABARET.
Nightly at 9 pm.
A CABARET MUSICAL
"Y"
Starring Arturo Brachetti
Dir. Jean Marie Riviere
"A REMARKABLE NIGHT OUT" Gdn. "TREMENDOUS SPECTACLE. TREMENDOUS FUN" BBC
AN EVENING FROM £3.50
Reservations 437 4506. Credit cards 379 6565/930 9232. Grps 836 3962.

PICCADILLY. Entrance from 11pm £5. Licensed until 2am. Music, Dancing, Midnight Cabaret CLEM CURTIS & THE FOUNDATIONS. Supper available.

PRINCE EDWARD. Tel 01-437 6877 S Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's
EVITA
THE WORLD'S MOST AWARDED MUSICAL
Directed by Hal Prince. Evgs. 8.0. Mats Thurs & Sat at 3.0 Evg. perfs end 10.15. C.C. Hotline 439 8499. Group Sales 930 6123 or Box Office.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. 01-930 8681 Credit card hotline 930 9232. Grp Sales 01-930 6123. Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30. Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30
DANNY LA RUE
"marvellous . . . in a class of his own" D.Tel.
in
HELLO, DOLLY!
with
LIONEL JEFFRIES
"Outstanding" Gdn.
and
LORNA DALLAS
MUST END APRIL 7

QUEENS c.c 01-734 1166. 439 3849/4031. Group Sales 01-930 6123.
PENELOPE KEITH
"Dazzling comic performance" Gdn.
IN
HAY FEVER
BY
NOEL COWARD
Evgs Mon-Fri 7.30 Mats Weds 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.15.
OVER 100 PERFORMANCES. LAST SEVEN WEEKS, MUST END APRIL 14

RAYMOND REVUEBAR CC 734 1593. Mon-Sat 7 pm, 9 pm, 11 pm. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New! New acts New thrills. New sensations. The world's centre of erotic entertainment. 26th great year.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS 748 3354 Until Sun THE BIKO INQUEST. Tues to Sun 8pm. 7-10 March 8pm back by popular demand JOHN SESSIONS – OLD & NEW CHESTNUTS and SALUTE TO DR. JOHNSON.

ROYAL COURT 730 1745. CC 730 4981 TOM AND VIV by Michael Hastings with Julie Covington, Deborah Findlay, David Haig, Nicholas Selby, Margaret Tyzack and Tom Wilkinson Evgs 8pm, Sat mat 4pm. Mon eve & Sat mat £2. "tender, probing, quietly moving" Gdn.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 7 30 2554. Rehearsed Readings. Feb 28 & 29 UP TO THE SUN AND DOWN TO THE CENTRE by Peter Cox 7.30 £2.

SAVOY. Box Office 01-836 8888 Credit Cards 01-379 6219 Evgs 7.45, Wed 3.0, Sat 5.0 & 8.30.
THE AWARD WINNING WEST-END & BROADWAY COMEDY HIT
JOHN QUAYLE AMANDA BARRIE ROBERT FLEMYNG CHRISTOPHER GODWIN LYNDA BELLINGHAM BERNARD HOLLEY
NOISES OFF
Directed by Michael Blakemore
"After two years Michael Frayn's comedy is still wildly funny" Times.
OVER 750 PERFORMANCES

SHAFTESBURY Shaftesbury Avenue 01-930 8577 c.c. 01-930 9232 Grp. Sales 01-930 6123 Evgs 8.0, Mat Wed 3.0, Sats 5.30 & 8.30.
THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
PETER BLAKE MICHAEL DENISON LIZA GODDARD CAROL HAWKINS MAUREEN LIPMAN ROYCE MILLS DEREK NIMMO BILL PERTWEE CHRISTOPHER TIMOTHY
"A team of actors born to play farce." – Guardian
in PHILIP KING'S
SEE HOW THEY RUN
Directed by RAY COONEY
"GLORIOUS EVENING" – Times
FOR A LIMITED SEASON: (Mon-Thur £2.50-£8.00) (Wed Mats £1.50-£5.50) (Fri & Sat £3.50-£9.00).

STRAND WC2 01-836 2660/4143/5190 Evgs 7.30. Matinees Wed 2 30. Saturdays 5.0 & 8.30
THE WEST END & BROADWAY SMASH HIT
Susan Penhaligon Paul Shelley Judy Geeson Richard Warwick
in TOM STOPPARD'S Award Winning Play
THE REAL THING
Directed by Peter Wood.
OVER 500 PERFORMANCES

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789) 295623. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY.
Now booking for R S C 's exciting new Stratford Season opening 22nd March of HENRY V with Kenneth Branagh, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE with Ian McDiarmid, RICHARD III with Antony Sher and HAMLET with Roger Rees THE OTHER PLACE season opens with A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM on 21st March and Pam Gems' CAMILLE from 4th April. For special meal/theatre deals and hotel stopover ring 0789 67262.

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443 Special CC No 930 9232 Evgs 8.00, Tues 2.45, Sats 5.00 & 8.00
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
32nd YEAR
Sorry, no reduced prices from any source, but seats bookable from £3.00

TRICYCLE TH 328 8626 Oxford Playhouse Co in PLAYBOY OF THE WEST INDIES by Mustapha Matura. "A fresh masterpiece" Times 8pm.

VAUDEVILLE WC2 836 9988. Group Sales 930 6123
"PERFECT CRIME THRILLER" Mirror
HAYLEY MILLS SIMON WARD & PETER ADAMSON in
DIAL M FOR MURDER
by Frederick Knott.
Directed by Allan Davis
Best seats £4.50. O.A.P.'s Weds Mats
Evgs 8.00 Mats Weds 2 45 Sats 5 00.

VICTORIA PALACE. 834 1317/828 4735. Evgs Mon 7 30 Tues-Sat 6.00 & 8.30.
SIMON CADELL, PAUL SHANE, RUTH MADOC, JEFFREY HOLLAND, FELIX BOWNESS, BARRY HOWARD, BEN WARRISS AND SU POLLARD in
HI-DE-HI
Great Value Prices £3 and £7.50. "Fate has flung these performers together in ONE HIT SHOW." D. Mail. "You'll enjoy this bright and breezy show." D. Mirror.
NOW BOOKING TO MAY 5

WYNDHAM'S 836 3028 CC 379 6565
OLD VIC SELL-OUT TRANSFERRED BY PUBLIC DEMAND TONIGHT FOR SIX-WEEK SEASON ONLY!
Eves 7.45, Wed Mat 3.00, Sat 5.00 & 8.30.
"A TRIUMPH" D. Mail for TIMOTHY WEST in
MASTER CLASS
"An astonishing & impressive new play" by David Pownall
"DELICIOUS COMEDY" Times
"BRILLIANT, FUNNY, MOVING, SUPERBLY ACTED & DIRECTED" Time Out.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981 Isabelle Huppert in AT FIRST SIGHT (15) at 2.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 6.25, 8.45.

ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Panfilov's prize-winning VASSA (PG). Progs 2 50 (not Sun), 5.35, 8 20.

ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Kurosawa's SEVEN SAMURAI (PG) at 4.00 7.30.

CAMDEN PLAZA 485 2443 Godard's Prizewinning film FIRST NAME CARMEN (18) Progs 1.30 3.20 5 15 7 10 & 9 10.

CHELSEA CINEMA 351 3742 Ingmar Bergman's masterpiece FANNY AND ALEXANDER (15) "Without question BEST PICTURE OF '83" D Robinson Times Film at 3 20 & 7.15 daily until 7 March.

CURZON, Curzon St, W1 499 3737. Jeremy Irons, Ben Kingsley, Patricia Hodge "Are all superb" F.T. in Harold Pinter's BETRAYAL (15) "A film not to be missed" Barry Norman Film '83. Progs TODAY 4.10, 6.20, 8 40 LAST WEEK From Friday Carlos Saura's CARMEN (15)

GATE BLOOMSBURY, 1 & 2. 837 8402, 1177. Russell Sq Tube. 1: Bob Fosse's STAR 80 (18) 3.00, 4.55, 6.50, 8.45 N.C.P. parking 30p anytime Sat & Sun. Mon-Fri after 6pm. 2: Last 9 days STAR STRUCK (PG) 3 30, 5.15, 7.05, 9.00. Starts Thurs March 8 TESTAMENT (PG) Lic'd Bar. Access/Visa.

GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031. MAYFAIR HOTEL, Green Pk Tube. THE LEOPARD (PG), 4.50 only.

GATE NOTTING HILL. 221 0220/727 5750. Last 9 days DANIEL (15). 1.55 (Sat & Sun only), 4.10, 6.30, 8.45. Starts Thurs March 8 TESTAMENT (PG)

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). UNDER FIRE (15). Sep progs Dly 2.10 5.15 8.20. NO ADVANCE BOOKING

LUMIERE CINEMA 836 0691 Coppola's RUMBLE FISH (18) Film at 1.05 3.00 5.00 7.00 & 9.05.

MINEMA 45 KNIGHTSBRIDGE Tel 235 4225/6 EXCLUSIVE PRESENTATION "WE OF THE NEVER NEVER" (U). Progs. daily: 3.15, 6.15, 8.45pm. "Romantic, charming & spectacular" (Telegraph)

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738). TO BE OR NOT TO BE (PG). Sep progs Dly 2.00, 5.55, 8.35. ALL SEATS BOOKABLE IN ADVANCE. ACCESS AND VISA TELEPHONE BOOKINGS WELCOME.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Info 930 4250/4259 TWO OF A KIND (PG). Sep progs. Doors open 2.00, 5.00, 8.00. ADVANCE BOOKING FOR LAST PERFORMANCE ONLY BY POST OR BOX OFFICE. ACCESS AND VISA ACCEPTED FOR ADVANCE BOOKING ONLY.

SCREEN ON BAKER ST. 935 2772. (96-98 Baker St., W1.) (1) LIANNA (18). 2 20, 4.40, 7.00, 9.15 (2) TRADING PLACES (15). 2.00, 4.20, 6 40, 9 00. Tickets bookable.

SCREEN ON ISLINGTON GREEN 226 3520 William Hurt in THE BIG CHILL (15). 2.55, 5.00, 7.05, 9 10. Club show (incl memb).

SCREEN ON THE HILL 435 3366. LIANNA (18). 2.20, 4.40, 7.00, 9.10. Lic. bar. Tickets bookable. Club show. Instant membership.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St, W1. 01-629 6176. Coloured AQUATINTS, early 19th cent. Sporting and Topographical Prints. STP Until 2nd March. Mon-Fri. 9 30-5 30.

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St., W1 The Omega Workshops. 499 4695

BRITISH LIBRARY, Gt Russell St, WC1 The English Provincial Printer 1700-1800. Wkdays 10-5. Suns 2.30-6. Adm free.

BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., W1 01-734 7984 ROBERT ORGAN. Recent paintings

CRAFTS COUNCIL GALLERY, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent Street, London SW1 Tel 01-930 4811 THE OMEGA WORKSHOPS 1913-19: Decorative Arts of Bloomsbury Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 2-5. Closed Mondays. Adm £1 20

GIMPEL FILS 30 Davies St W1. 493 2488. IDA KOHLMEYER. Paintings from the American South

MALL GALLERIES, The Mall, SW1. The National Society, Feb. 23-March 4. Mon-Sun 10-5 Adm £1

MUSEUM OF MANKIND, Burlington Gardens, W1. HIMALAYAN: A Nepalese Textile Tradition. Mon-Sat 10-5. Suns 2.30-6 Adm. free

ROYAL ACADEMY, Burlington House, Piccadilly. Open 10-6 daily incl. Sunday THE GENIUS OF VENICE 1500-1600 until 11 March. Adm. £3.50, £2.00 concessionary rate and on Suns. until 1.45pm.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, Sth Kensington. British 20th century art and design. Islamic bookbindings. Until 4 March. Wallpaper: Four centuries of design. 20th century watercolours. Korean embroideries. Until 15 April Adm. free. Wkdys 10-5.30. Suns. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays. Recorded info. 01-581 4894.

WILDENSTEIN 147 New Bond St, W1 629 0602. Sculpture by CHURYO SATO. Until 23 March. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30.

5 Iranian aircraft shot down Iraq says

By Our Foreign Staff

Iraq claimed yesterday to have shot down four Iranian helicopters and a fighter-bomber during fighting on the 100-mile front between the two countries, which have been at war more than three years.

For the first time for a week the Iraqis made no mention of any more ground attacks by the Iranians, but the two sides produced conflicting accounts of fighting in the marshlands of Al Hawizah, north of Basra.

A communiqué reported by Tehran radio spoke of the continuation of Iran's offensive in the marshlands. It said two armoured and two infantry battalions of the Iraqi Army's First Division were "decimated" and 500 Iraqi troops killed or wounded. It also claimed that two Iraqi aircraft had been shot down.

The Iraqi commander in the area said his men had succeeded in destroying Iranian forces which penetrated the marshland of Al Hawizah.

Iran also said two Iraqi missiles had hit the border town of Bostan, north-east of the area in which Tehran is conducting its offensive.

The news agency Irna, said damage and casualties from the attack were not immediately known. The strike followed a similar attack on Sunday on Hoveyzeh, about 25 miles south of Bostan.

Both sides have stepped up attacks on each other's towns and Tehran has threatened more retaliatory strikes until the Iraqis stop hitting Iranian population centres.

Irna said the missiles used on Bostan, in Iran's oil-rich western province of Khuzestan, were 10ft long. Iraq is known to have Soviet Scud B and Frog missiles and is also reported by diplomats to have received sophisticated SS12 medium-range weapons.

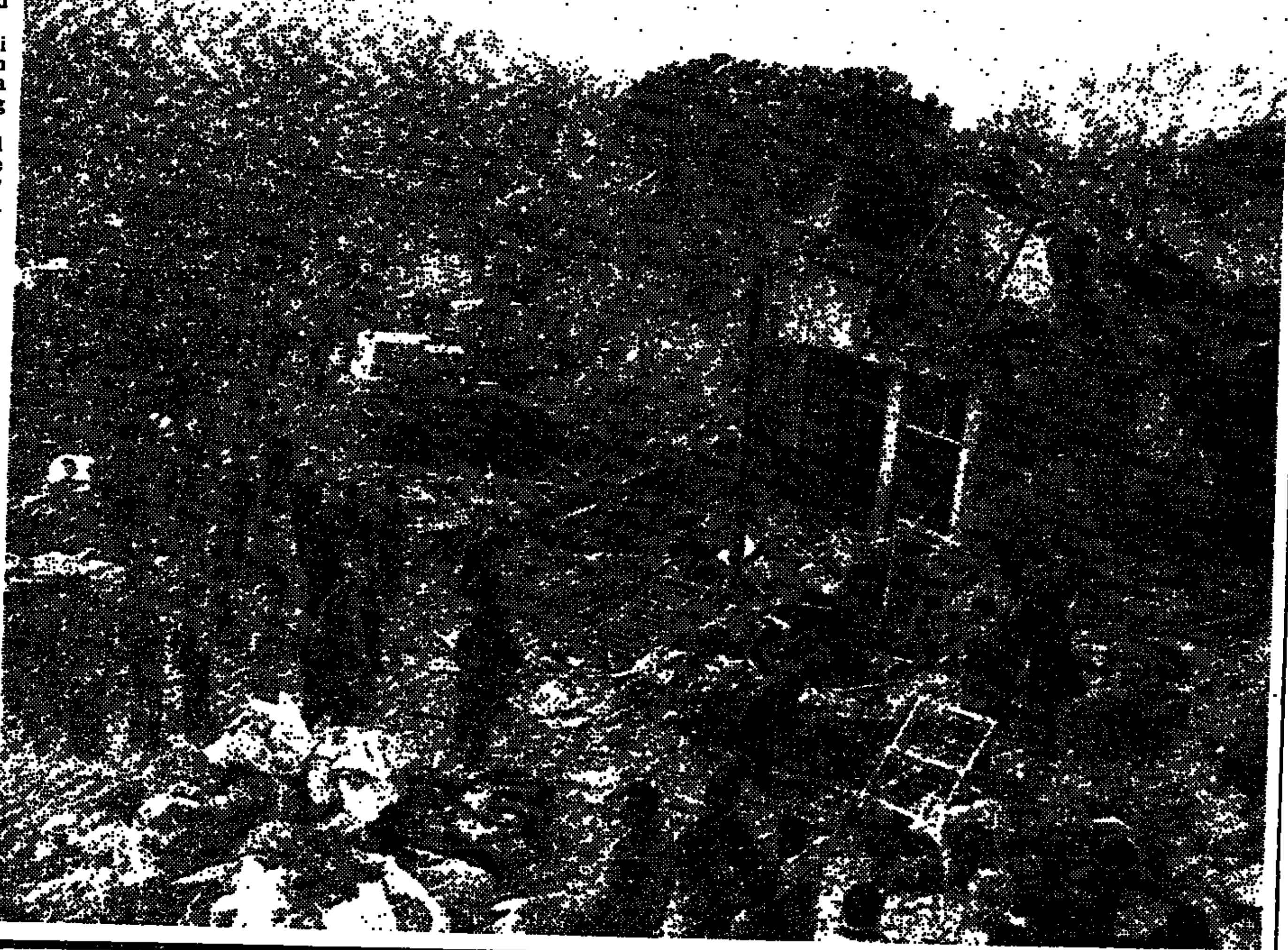
Irna also said Iranian forces yesterday repulsed nine Iraqi counter-attacks. "Nine enemy counter-offensives have been smashed so far . . ."

Irna also claimed that Iraq had used chemical weapons in bombing raids, killing or wounding about 400 people in the past 24 hours.

The agency quoted an informed Iranian military source as saying "nerve gas, nitrogen mustard, vesicant, blistering and irritant" chemicals had been used.



Face of war: Iranian troops (above) embarking during the offensive in the Iraqi province of Al-Amarah and Basra. Below is the scene in the Iranian city of Khorramabad after an Iraqi missile attack.



Howe cites protests to vindicate union ban

Continued from page one

pressure put on them to participate in industrial action which they knew could damage national security.

Sir Geoffrey said that one union leader, writing to his members about today's demonstration, had said that to avoid giving propaganda points to the Government GCHQ members would not be asked to take strike action.

"Nothing could make it clearer", he said, "that in his mind at least, pressure on GCHQ is being avoided on this occasion largely for tactical reasons".

Mr Charles Irving, the Conservative MP for Cheltenham, found there had been "ineptitude and insensitivity beyond belief", which earned him a cheer from the Labour benches.

Mr James Callaghan, with the authority of a former Prime Minister, and Mr Denis Healey, a former defence secretary, made Mrs Margaret Thatcher their target.

Mr Callaghan said that the Prime Minister, as head of the Civil Service and the security services should have spoken in the debate. The unions had met everything the Government had asked for. The only conclusion was that the Prime Minister was so emotional and irrational about trade unionism that she could not bring herself to reach agreement even when her requirements were met.

Mr Healey accused ministers of doing immense damage to Civil Service morale, and quoted with relish Lord Bancroft's description of "the bloody foul branch of management science". He pledged the next Labour Government to readmit the unions to Cheltenham on the terms which the Government had been offered and should have jumped at.

He said of the Foreign Secretary: "Some of his colleagues must be a bit tired by now of him hobbling from one of their doorsteps to another with a bleeding hole in his foot and a smoking gun in his hand, and telling them he didn't know it was loaded", he said.

Mr Healey's special mix of invective, both genial and brutal, flowed over the Government front bench. Who, he asked, who was the Mephistopheles behind Sir Geoffrey's shabby Faust? It was the great she-elephant. She who must be obeyed. The Catherine the Great of Finchley.

Suppressed giggles on the Conservative backbenches showed that he had scored.

Frank Johnson in New Hampshire

In the footsteps of John Kennedy

By this stage of the New Hampshire primary, in which voting takes place today, the people of New Hampshire come to believe their own publicity.

In supermarkets they tend actually to explain to the visitor things such as: "What you must understand is that Mondale's support from big labour is a mixed blessing in this literally conservative state." Or they will explain: "Mondale has come out of Iowa with that all-important winning aura, but New Hampshire people jealously guard their independence, and are not the sort to be dictated to by Iowa or by the national news media."

All these sentiments they must have discovered themselves from the national news media, as how else could such alien language get into the heads of the little old ladies and normally taciturn senior citizens who, in the middle of the day, one tends to meet in American supermarkets.

But we all have our idealized conception of ourselves, and who is the visitor to begrudge New Hampshire's? "Come inside for a free coffee," the proprietor of the Friendly Cafe in the industrial town of Manchester beckoned as we waited in the cold outside a house into which Senator Gary Hart had wedged himself with 50 cameramen in order to spend a typical New Hampshire Sunday morning. I, and a Swiss television crew which, following its country's traditional policy of neutrality, refused to kick and elbow American cameramen to get into the house, accepted the Friendly Cafe's shelter.

"England! Switzerland! every four year" this cafe becomes the crossroads of America." The proprietor exulted. He explained that this year he was for Mr Hart. But, like all New Hampshire citizens, he quickly added that he campaigned for John Kennedy in 1960, for, as the whole world knows, that was the New Hampshire primary of legend and fable: the snowy edyll celebrated in the remorselessly lyrical prose of Mr Theodore White's first, irresistible *Making of the President*.

All New Hampshire citizens of the appropriate age claim to have been for Kennedy that year, rather in the way that a vast number of Dubliners, of the appropriate age or not, claim to have been in that Post Office in 1916.

This year's primary lacks that romanticism. There is the ploddingly earnest "front runner" Mr Mondale, with his rather unlyrical banks of telephones. But there is Mr Hart. Because he has the hair, a youghful figure at 47, and somewhere in the background Mr Theodore Sorensen advising away, Mr Hart has constituted himself a Kennedy figure. Orating around Manchester yesterday, he dreamt dreams, set goals, issued challenges, arranged rendezvous with destiny, and saw more visions of the future than the downtown clairvoyant.

This sort of thing worked for Mr Kennedy in 1960 and at the moment it seems good enough to win Mr Hart second place today. But Mr Hart's followers seemed a rather apolitical lot, preoccupied with acid rain and toxic waste.

The true believers among the liberals were with Mr George McGovern in the Palace Theatre, Manchester, on Sunday night. A radical folk singer named Mr Arlo Guthrie, son of another radical folk singer named Woodie Guthrie, twanged and whined to their delight.

Meanwhile, Senator John Glenn, who must come second if he is to stay in the race, was becoming steadily the victim of the flaw in his strategy of aiming for conservative Democratic votes. If voters are all that conservative, surely they will vote for the conservative Mr Reagan rather than for any Democrat. In his desperate search for conservative Democrats he disconsolately wandered around a shoe factory yesterday morning.

To the foreign observer, he seems to have another problem. Many voters seem to think he went to the moon. In fact, he went around the earth – an impressive feat, but nowadays regarded as commonplace by Americans. When they learn it was only the earth he orbited, some of them think it no big deal. He didn't even go to the moon! That , however, is at least an inprovement on the fame of the three completely unknown candidates named Cranston, Hollings and Askew who, in the eyes of independent minded New Hampshire, might just as well have come *from* the moon.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen holds an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, 11.

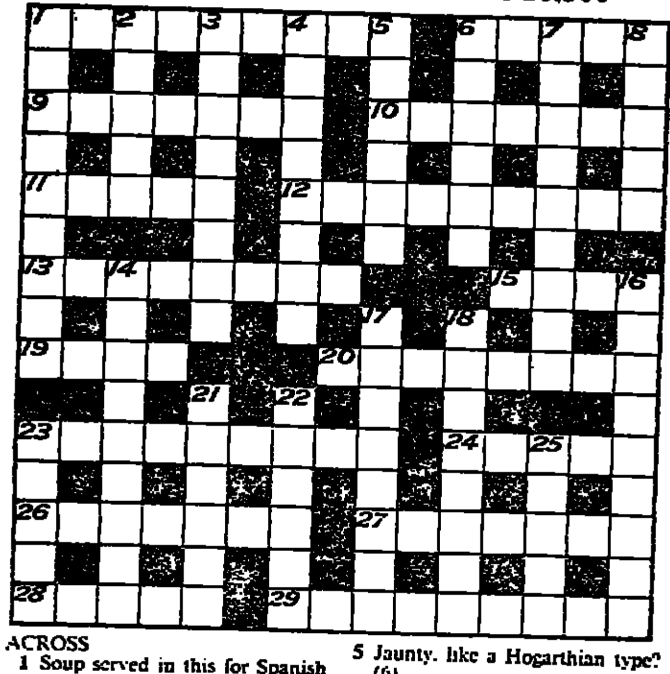
The Prince of Wales visits the Information Technology Centre, Barnstable, Devon, 11.10; and later visits the North Maritime Museum, Appledore, Devon, 2.10; at 2.55 His Royal Highness names the Natural Environment Research Council's new research ship, RRS Charles Darwin, at Appledore Ship Yard, Devon.

The duke of Edinburgh attends a reception given by the European-Atlantic Group at St. Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street, SW1, 6.30.

The Duke of Gloucester attends a Court Dinner to commemorate the bicentenary of William Pitt the Younger's acceptance of the Honorary Freedom of the Worshipful Company of Grocers at Grocers' Hall, London, 7.20.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Education Corps, visits their Headquarters at Eltham, London, 10.45.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,366



ACROSS
1 Soup served in this for Spanish campanologist (9).
6 Clergyman opposed to one form of transport (5).
9 Musical performance we may see indeed separately (7).
10 King has a chair redesigned in Pakistan (7).
11 Harpagon for one is in the main French (5).
12 Gum consumed – you chew it so? (9).
13 In a moment Ron's sadly knocked into a cocked hat (8).
15 Petty Officer to work on deck (4).
19 Given sharp rebuke, say, being so engrossed (4).
20 Aircraft feature gives Peter a shot in the arm (8).
23 Bird Colonel Sebastian's seen by river in sleeping-place (9).
24 Pub said to have tenant here on the coast (5).
26 One of our island race going round and about (7).
27 How the line regiments start to move, obviously (7).
28 Brute sounds intoxicated with a girl (5).
29 Sad ice etc is broken – we have to dry up (9).

DOWN
1 Safe to skirt the frost within the boundary (9).
2 A girl's best friend dances (5).
3 Crime fighters' sound advice on disposal of defunct parrot (8).
4 It can make us rich or possessive (4-4).
5 Jaunty, like a Hogarthian type? (6).
6 Not all over, mind, for rats and mice and such (6).
7 Exultant, turn up article on the ring to find . . . (4-1-4).
8 . . . the source of Wagner's material for it (5).
14 What a solicitor may do, meaning one in France? (9).
16 Enclose a number in ice, to show contrition (9).
17 Lacking interest, energy and apparently inclination (8).
18 Sir Willoughby Patterne was so self-centred (8).
21 Lady giving prima donna her congé? (6).
22 The sort of ad the police sometimes publish (6).
23 Fielder a good one in the marriage market too? (5).
25 A wood-joiner set up as a jungle climber (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,365

[illegible]

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Music

Organ recital by Bernard Robertson, St. Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

Recital by Mark Walton (clarinet), Chichester Cathedral, 1.10.

General

General Synod of the Church of England, Church House, Dean's Yard, SW1; sitting from 10 to 1 and 2.30 to 7.

Talks, lectures

The world depression of the 1930's and its origins by Professor Herman van der Wee, Attenborough Lecture Theatre, Leicester University, Leicester, 5.15.

Art in Nature by H. John Podmore, Doncaster Camera Club, 18a North Bridge Road, Doncaster, 7.30.

Exhibitions in progress

Turner Watercolours and Constable drawings, the Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Manchester M15 6ER, Mon-Sat 10-5, Thurs 10-9 (ends March 3).

Recent paintings, drawings and collages by Lys Hansen; "Cover Story": artwork from the Women's Press; Theatre graphics by Richard Bird; all at Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow; Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30 (ends March 9).

The Artist and the Castle: Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5.30, Fri 10 to 4.30, Sat 9.30 to 4 (ends March 10).

Etchings by Bevis Sale, Prescott Museum, 34 Church Street, Prescot, Lancashire; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (ends March 10).

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Welsh affairs.

Lords (2.30): Housing and Building Control Bill, committee, first day.

Primrose festival

The World Wildlife Fund, in connexion with a major plant conservation campaign to be launched by the Duke of Edinburgh at Kew on March 21, has organized a fund-raising "Primrose Festival" at the By-Pass nurseries near Colchester, Essex, on March 17 and 18. Details from the WWF, Panda House, 11-13 Ockford Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1QU. Tel: 04868 20551.

Stub it out

Several health groups and businesses are sponsoring National No Smoking Day tomorrow. According to the recent report of the Royal College of Physicians, tobacco accounts for at least 100,000 premature deaths in Britain annually, and the loss of 50 million working days a year (four times that caused by strikes). Most of the companies will be displaying the campaign poster with the "stub it out" slogan, and distributing car stickers and copies of the special *Smoker's Guide to National No Smoking Day*. The guide gives ten tips on how to give up for the day, general information about smoking and health, and includes a smoker's contract for sponsorship by relatives and friends.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending February 19:

ITV
1 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 16.75m
2 Minder, Thames, 15.30m
3 Coronation Street (Mon), Granada, 15.20m
3= This is Your Life, Thames, 15.20m
5 Duty Free, Yorkshire, 15.10m
6 The A-Team, ITV, 13.85m
7 Yanks, ITV, 13.75m
8 3-2-1, Yorkshire, 13.60m
9 Name That Tune, Thames, 13.50m
10 A Fine Romance, LWT, 13.20m

BBC 1
1 Olympic Grandstand (Tue 19 40), 15.95m
2 Main News (Tue 21:15), 10.15m
2= The Living Planet 10.15m
2= Diana 10.15m
5 Nine O'Clock News (Thu) 9.95m
6 District Nurse 9.85m
7 Holiday 9.80m
8 Jim'll Fix It 9.65m
9 Top Of The Pops 9.40m
10 Olympic Grandstand (Sun 22 03) 9.05m

BBC 2
1 Alas Smith & Jones 4.45m
2 Call My Bluff 4.00m
2= Murder Most Foul 4.00m
4 Pot Black '84 3.90m
5 Horizon 3.80m
5= Dear Ladies 3.80m
7 Your Life In Their Hands 3.55m
8 Leo 3.45m
9 M.A.S.H. 3.30m
10 Breaker Morant 3.15m

Channel 4
1 Treasure Hunt 3.25m
2 Brookside (Wed) 2.80m
2= Cheers 2.80m
4 Brookside (Tue) 2.70m
4= The Terminal Man 2.70m
6 A Boy In The Bush 2.40m
7 Tea For Two 2.30m
8 The Lady Is A Tramp 2.10m
9 St Elsewhere 2.05m
10 Sewn/shod 2.00m

S4C
In Welsh
1 Cedrau Canu/Canmol, Relegion BBC 54 000
2 Pobol Y Cwm Serial BBC 48 000
3 Rhagin Hyd Gwynfryn, L Ent BBC 43,000
4 Newyddion Saith, (Wed) C Affairs BBC 40,000
5 Y Fflit Sgrar Documentary IND 37,000
In English
1 Buck Rogers 139,000
2 St Elsewhere 95 000
3 A Boy In The Bush 89 000
4 Thieves' Highway 76,000
5 No Problem 72,000

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parenthesis showing the reach - the number of people who viewed for at least eight minutes):
BBC1: *Breakfast Time*, Mon-Fri, 1.5m (5.4m).
TV-am: *Good Morning Britain*, Mon-Fri, 1.3m (5.7m)

Broadcasters' Audience Research Board.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.62	1.54
Austria Sch	28.45	26.85
Belgium Fr	85.25	81.25
Canada $	1.88	1.81
Denmark Kr	14.70	14.00
Finland Mkk	8.69	8.29
France Fr	12.25	11.75
Germany DM	3.99	3.81
Greece Dr	162.00	152.00
Hongkong $	11.70	11.10
Ireland Pt	1.31	1.25
Italy Lira	2465.00	2365.00
Japan Yen	357.00	341.00
Netherlands Gld	4.53	4.31
Norway Kr	11.56	10.96
Portugal Esc	200.00	190.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	226.00	217.00
Sweden Kr	12.00	11.40
Switzerland Fr	3.31	3.14
USA $	1.51	1.46
Yugoslavia Dnr	211.00	201.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 342.6.

London: The *FT* Index closed 3.3 up at 819.1.

Roads

A245: Single alternate lane traffic in Stoke Road, Corham, between Mizen Lane and Blundell Road; temporary signals.

Midlands: A12: Two-way traffic shares one carriageway on Ipswich – Colchester road at Bentley. A429: Roadworks on Wellesbourne – Stow road at Halford, Warwickshire. A52: Single-lane traffic on Nottingham – Grantham road at Muston Bends, Leicester; temporary signals.

Wales and West: A55: Temporary roundabout at Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, (junction with A456). A396: Temporary traffic signals on Tiverton – Bampton road at Speedway Corner, also at Black Cat.

A383/A385: Single-lane traffic on Totnes – Buckfast road at Shinners Bridge, Dartington; temporary traffic signals.

North: A69: Roadworks at Greenhead, Northumberland. A6125: Lane restrictions on Durham Road/Ettrick Grove, Sunderland, between Clayton Road and Blue Horse roundabout. A637: Drainage work in Barnsley Road, between Darton and Barugh, just after the Bailey bridge.

Scotland: A82: Single-lane traffic in Glencoe, Argyll. A9: Traffic control at Dunblane, Stirlingshire.

The AA are urging motorists to find alternative routes and methods of transport to get to work because of the chaos caused by the closure of Hammersmith Bridge. "The disruption could last for some time as it could be weeks rather than days before the bridge is reopened. With the possibility of disrupted public transport tomorrow car sharing and staggered departure times look to be the best bet," they said. Signs have been set up as far out as Guildford in Surrey asking motorists to avoid the area around Hammersmith Bridge.

Information supplied by AA.

Anniversaries

Births: **Michel de Montaigne**, essayist, Bordeaux, France 1533; **Rachel** (Elisa Felix) actress, Mumpf, Switzerland, 1820; **Linus Pauling**, chemist, Portland, Oregon, 1901.

Alphonse de Lamartine, poet and statesman, died Paris, 1869.

The papers

The Sun says it hopes and believes that the TUC's call, made as a protest against the ban on unions at Cheltenham, will be ignored by the vast majority of workers. "If that happens the union bosses will simply look foolish", it comments, adding "disruption that does occur will not affect the Government. Who is harmed if the job centres are closed – except the jobless? Who is harmed if Social Security offices are closed – except those in need of benefits? Who is harmed if hospital workers walk out – except the frial and the sick?"

Weather forecast

Trough of low pressure will cross northern parts, while pressure remains high to W of Britain.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, E, NE England, East Anglia, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands: Misty with extensive hill fog and some drizzle, becoming mainly dry with clear intervals developing later; winds NE backing NW light occasionally moderate at first; max temp 4 to 5C (39 to 41F).

SW, NW England, S, N Wales, Lake Districts, Isle of Man: Mostly dry, sunny or clear intervals, perhaps fog patches early and late; winds variable light; max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: Bright early, occasional rain later; winds SW light or moderate; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

SW, NW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Mostly cloudy, some rain in places, hill fog at times; wind mainly SW moderate occasionally fresh; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Some rain in N, mainly dry and less cold in S.

SEA PASSAGES: South North Sea and Straits of Dover: NE fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. **English Channel:** wind NE moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate. **St George's Channel:** wind light variable; sea smooth. **Irish Sea:** wind light variable becoming moderate or fresh SW later; sea smooth becoming slight.

Sun rises: 6.50 am Sun sets: 5.38 pm
Moon rises: 6.01 am Moon sets: 1.51 pm
New Moon: March 2.

Lighting-up time

London 6.08 pm to 6.18 am
Bristol 6.17 pm to 6.27 am
Edinburgh 6.13 pm to 6.36 am
Manchester 6.13 pm to 6.29 am
Penzance 6.31 pm to 6.37 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun, sn, snow:

		C	F			C	F
Belfast				Guernsey	sn	4	39
Birmingham	r	3	37	Inverness	c	6	43
Blackpool	c	5	41	Jersey	c	4	39
Bristol	c	4	39	London	c	5	41
Cardiff	c	4	39	Manchester	r	5	41
Edinburgh	s	4	39	Newcastle	c	4	39
Glasgow	s	6	43	Ronaldsway	c	5	41

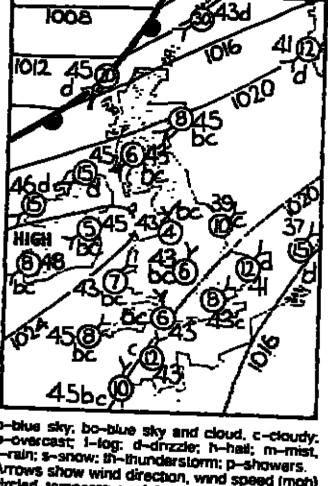
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 85 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1016.9 millibars, and rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53 in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Newquay, Cornwall 8C (46F); lowest day max: Wattisham, Suffolk 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, N. Scotland, Cottesmore, Leics, 0.27in; highest sunshine: Prestwick, Ayr 8.7hr.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY: AM, HT, PM, HT

[illegible]

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

Sun hrs, Rain in, Max C F

Scarboro, Bridlington, Cromer, Lowestoft, Clacton, Margate, Folkestone, Hastings, Eastbourne, Brighton, Worthing, Littlehmptn, Bognor R, Southsea, Shanklin, Bournemth, Poole, Stornoway, Lerwick, Wick, Edinburgh, Aldergrove [values illegible]

[illegible]

Sunday's figures are latest available

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

Ajaccio, Akrotiri, Alexandria, Algiers, Amsterdam, Athens, Bahrain, Barbados*, Barcelona, Beirut, Belgrade, Berlin, Bermuda*, Biarritz, Boulogne, Bordeaux, Brussels, Budapest, Buen Aires*, Cairo, Cape Tn, C'blanca, Chicago*, Cologne [values illegible]

[illegible]

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available